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DELHI
CITY EDITION
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NEARBY

Water level in Yamuna river starts receding

NEW DELHI

The water level in the Yamuna has started receding and is expected to fall below the danger mark in the early hours of Thursday. About 2,000 people living in the low-lying areas have been evacuated since Sunday night. The government has erected around 4,000 tents for them, according to officials.

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Homebuyers surrender 4,000 DDA flats

NEW DELHI

Out of the approximately 8,000 flats allotted by the Delhi Development Authority, around 4,000 of them have been surrendered by the allottees, officials said on Wednesday. They said most of the flats surrendered were in the low-income group in Narela. A draw of lots for the housing scheme 2019 was conducted in July where around 10,000 flats were put on offer.

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Chidambaram arrested in INX Media case after high drama

He was held from his residence after making surprise appearance at press meet

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Central Bureau of Investigation on Wednesday arrested former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram soon after he held a press conference at the Congress headquarters refuting all charges against him in the INX Media case.

"He has been arrested on an arrest warrant issued by a competent court," said CBI spokesperson Nitin Wakankar.

After his arrest, doctors from the Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital conducted a medical examination on him at the CBI headquarters, sources said.

Mr. Chidambaram has been kept in suite No. 5 of the CBI Guest House on the ground floor of the agency headquarters, they said.

He will be produced before a special CBI court on Thursday, where the agency will seek his remand.

Earlier, high drama unfolded outside Mr. Chidambaram's residence following his arrival after the press conference around 8.15 p.m.

A CBI team, which had earlier reached the Congress headquarters, jumped over the wall of the premises to enter Mr. Chidambaram's house. An ED team, led by a Joint Director-level officer, also entered the residence.

CBI officials taking away Congress leader P. Chidambaram in New Delhi on Wednesday. ▪ ANI

Mr. Chidambaram's supporters soon gathered outside, shouting slogans against the investigating agencies and the Central government.

After completing the formalities, the CBI team took custody of Mr. Chidambaram around 9.30 p.m. and drove away in a car to the CBI headquarters.

Bail denied

The CBI and the ED teams had started looking for Mr. Chidambaram after his plea for anticipatory bail was denied by the Delhi High Court on Tuesday, and his appeal was not immediately listed for hearing by the Supreme Court.

Several teams of the two agencies attempted to track him down, but he could not be traced till he appeared for the press conference.

In a twist to the daylong drama with news channels and the ruling government questioning Mr. Chidambaram's alleged attempts at "evading" arrest, he appeared at the Congress headquarters at 8 p.m. to address the media.

"In the INX Media case, I have not been accused of any offence. Nor has anyone else, including any member of my family, been accused of any offence. In fact, there is no chargesheet by either the CBI or the ED filed before a competent court," he said.

He also said that the FIR did not accuse him of any wrongdoing. "Yes, there is a widespread impression that grave offences have been committed, and my son and I have committed those offences. Nothing can be farther from truth. These are lies spread by pathological liars."

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 12
MORE REPORTS ▸ PAGE 12

Trump: Kashmir situation complicated by religion

Will do my best to mediate in the issue, says U.S. President

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
WASHINGTON DC

U.S. President Donald Trump on Tuesday said he would do his best to mediate or help somehow with the tensions between India and Pakistan over Kashmir.

Mr. Trump drew attention to the fact that he had spoken to the Prime Ministers of both countries on Monday and that he would be meeting Prime Minister Modi in Biarritz, France, for the G7 summit over the weekend. However, he stopped short of directly saying that he would raise the Kashmir issue with Mr. Modi over the weekend.

Will meet Modi

"I get along really well with both of them. As you know, Prime Minister Khan was here just recently. And I was with – I'm going to be with Prime Minister Modi. I'll be with him over the weekend in France," Mr. Trump said.

"I think we're helping the situation. But there's [sic] tremendous problems between those two countries, as you know. And I will do the best I can to mediate or do something," Mr. Trump said, speaking at the Oval Office in the presence of Romanian President Klaus Iohannis, prior to their bilateral meeting.

"Great relationship with both of them [Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister Imran Khan], but they are not exactly friends at this moment. Complicated situation. A lot has to do with religion. Religion is a complicated subject," Mr. Trump added.

The U.S. President's comments on Kashmir also included his version of a history of the region.

"Well, they've been having this – these talks for hundreds of years, even under different names. But this is – but it's Kashmir. And Kashmir is a very complicated place. You have the Hindus and you have the Muslims, and I wouldn't say they get along so great. And that's what you have right now," Mr. Trump said, calling the situation "very explosive".

The U.S. has been concerned about the risk of a nuclear confrontation between India and Pakistan – concerns that have especially been stressed since the terror attack in Pulwama on February 14 and the ensuing hostilities between the two countries. Washington is also seeking Pakistan's cooperation in ensuring that a peace deal is struck with the Taliban and the U.S. can begin withdrawing from Afghanistan.

Ready to help: U.S. President Donald Trump speaking outside the White House in Washington, DC. ▪ AFP

'Be wary of U.S.-Pak. deal'

India should be wary about a possible U.S.-Pakistan "deal" on Afghanistan, former Afghan President Hamid Karzai said. Mr. Karzai was in Delhi to meet PM Narendra Modi and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar. ▸ PAGE 13

Dalit protest turns violent in the Capital

Bhim Army chief along with 50 others detained for protesting temple demolition

HUMANI BHANDARI
NIKHIL M BABU
NEW DELHI

A protest by Dalit organisations against the demolition of a Guru Ravidas temple in the Tughlakabad forest area turned violent in south-east Delhi's Govindpuri on Wednesday evening, with the police detaining over 50 protesters, including Bhim Army chief Chandrashekhar Azad.

DCP (South-East) Chinmoy Biswal said more people could be detained as several police teams were monitoring the situation following a clash between the protesters and the police.

Thousands of protesters from various Dalit organisations, led by the Bhim Army chief, took to the streets on Wednesday and marched from Ramlila Maidan to the site where the Guru Ravidas temple was demolished earlier this month by the Delhi Development Authority.

Police personnel baton charge activists of the Bhim Army during a rally in Delhi on Wednesday. ▪ PTI

'Attacked with stones'

The police claimed the protesters turned violent and attacked officers with sticks and stones. "Mild and reasonable force had to be used to disperse the unruly mob. Some policemen have sustained injuries in the incident. Some members of the unruly mob have been detained. Appropriate legal action is being taken in this matter," said Mr. Biswal, adding that over 800 policemen were deployed in the area. Sources said the protesters also vandalised a few vehicles and set them on fire. The road leading to the temple was blocked after the violence, the sources added.

The protesters, however, claimed that the police started the lathi charge to stop their march. Satish Kumar, 43, a BSP worker from Najafgarh, said the police used force when some of the protesters tried to go inside the site of the demolished temple. "We were peaceful, but some people wanted to go inside the temple and the police used water canon and lathis to stop us."

Kailash Nirmal, 38, a member of Samyakk Buddhvihar, C-Block Mongolpuri, said they fled the spot as soon as the police started lathi charge and lobbed tear gas shells at them. "I am yet to find the others who came with me," he said.

SEE ASLO ▸ PAGE 3

No plan to curb social media: HC

'Aadhaar linkage never considered'

MOHAMED IMRANULLAH S.
CHENNAI

The Madras High Court on Wednesday made it clear that it was absolutely not interested, at any point of time, in addressing a plea made by two public interest litigation (PIL) petitioners to link Aadhaar or any other government authorised identity proof with social media accounts held by individuals.

Justices S. Manikumar and Subramonium Prasad clarified that they had expanded the scope of the two PIL petitions long back and had issued notices to Facebook, YouTube, Google, WhatsApp, Twitter and a few others only to make them share information with the police in cases involving cyber crimes.

The judges agreed with the submissions of Advocate General Vijay Narayan and Additional Government Pleader E. Manoharan that much water had flowed ever since the court expanded the scope of the case in August last year and the social media giants too had been participating in the proceedings for long.

However, some of them had moved the Supreme Court on Tuesday with a plea to transfer the two cases pending in Madras High Court, as well as similar cases pending in other High Courts, to the top court in order to avoid contradictory verdicts.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 12

Cleaning services on trains will be hit

Southern Railway facing fund crunch

S. VIJAY KUMAR
CHENNAI

With no sign of funds coming in from the Railway Ministry despite an SOS, Southern Railway has decided to suspend onboard housekeeping services (OBHS) on 86 long-distance trains, mostly originating from Tamil Nadu and Kerala, with effect from September 1.

The step, which comes amid Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Swachch Bharat mission, follows acute paucity of funds to pay dues to OBHS contractors.

Contracts to end

Southern Railway is planning to withdraw contracts for linen supply, pest control and bio-toilet maintenance on these trains.

Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer Subranshu has written to senior officials in Chennai, Madurai, Palghat, Thiruvananthapuram, Tiruchi and Salem Divisions asking them to issue notices to contractors to suspend OBHS operations.

24 expresses spared

However, out of the 110 long-distance trains, OBHS will be retained on 24 trains, including Tamil Nadu Express, Grand Trunk Express, Kerala Express and Navajeevan Express.

"A conscious decision has been taken to keep operation of OBHS contract in abeyance," Mr. Subranshu said.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 12

Militant killed in Baramulla encounter

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR/ NEW DELHI

A Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) militant and a police officer were killed in an encounter in North Kashmir's Baramulla district early on Wednesday.

"LeT militant Momin Gojri from Baramulla's Syed Kareem, was killed in Ganie-Hamam area, where an operation was launched on Tuesday evening," said Deputy Inspector General of Police V.K. Birdi.

Special Police Officer Billal Ahmad succumbed to injuries sustained during the encounter, the first since Article 370 was annulled and the State bifurcated on August 5.

Sub-inspector A. Parihar, who was injured in the operation was rushed to the Army hospital, officials added.

Fossils show Kutch desert was once a forest

'It likely had giraffes, rhinos, elephants and giant crocodiles in the Miocene period'

JACOB KOSHY
NEW DELHI

The hot arid desert of Kutch was once a humid sub-tropical forest with a variety of birds, freshwater fish and possibly giraffes and rhinos, a team of Indian and French researchers has said.

Their conclusions are based on the discovery of a tranche of vertebrate fossils from nearly 14 million years ago in a geological period known as the Miocene. After the discovery, they took nearly 12 years for analysis.

The fossils, consisting mostly of ribs, and parts of teeth and bones, were unearthed from Palasava village of Rapar taluk in Kutch, Gujarat.

"Overall, the fossil finds from Palasava suggest that a rich diversity of fauna and flora sustained in warm, humid/wet, tropical to sub-tropical environmental conditions during the Middle Miocene (about 14 Mya)," the research team of Vivesh V. Kapur, Martin Pickford, Gaurav Chauhan and M.G. Thakkar reported in the peer-reviewed journal *Historical Biology*.

Mammoth find: An upper molar of an elephant-like mammal (Gomphothere) at Palasava in Kutch. ▪ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The bulk of fossils unearthed in Kutch have so far been mainly marine organisms, due to their proximity to the Arabian Sea. Geological changes eventually closed off the salt-flats' connection to the sea and the region turned into a large lake, eventually becoming salty wetlands.

The findings point to clues on how mammals dispersed between Africa and the Indian subcontinent when part of India was in the Gondwanaland supercontinent that existed nearly 300 million years ago.

"It is surprising that Kutch had giraffes, rhinos, elephants and giant crocodiles in a closed basin in the Miocene," M.G. Thakkar, a senior scientist at the K.S.K.V. Kachchh University told *The Hindu*.

Palaeontologist G.V.R. Prasad of Delhi University said that the finds were significant because they showed Kutch to be a potential treasure trove of mammal fossils with possible continuity to vertebrate fossils in the Siwalik, spanning Pakistan to Nepal.

In Hyderabad, Amazon opens its biggest ever campus

Have not seen any slowdown, says its country head

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

Amazon on Wednesday inaugurated a three-million sq ft campus building on 9.5 acres within Hyderabad's financial district, the largest such facility for the e-commerce giant globally.

The opening of what is the company's first owned office building outside the U.S. and the single-largest building globally, comes in the backdrop of a growing significance of India as a market as well as intensifying competition in the space.

Country head Amit Agarwal told the media, in an interaction at the inauguration event, that Amazon was both focused on and committed long term to India.

Not attaching undue importance to either the competition in the country or the effects of an economic slowdown on the business plans, he said, "We haven't seen any slowdown yet." One reason could be the small share of e-commerce in retail consumption.

The Amazon's new office facility at Gachibowli in Hyderabad is spread over 9.5 acres. ▪ NAGARA GOPAL

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 12

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IN BRIEF

Pushkin Medal conferred on JNU professor

NEW DELHI

JNU Professor Meeta Narain was conferred the 'Pushkin Medal - 2019', the highest honour given to an Indian scholar by the Russian government, at a ceremony here on Wednesday. The award is given to a scholar of Russian language and literature for outstanding contribution to Russian studies abroad.

Air quality of Delhi-NCR

Delhi	109	Gurugram	126
Ghaziabad	154	Faridabad	83
Noida	120	Greater Noida	146

Good 0-50 | Satisfactory 51-100 | Moderate 101-200 | Poor 201-300 | Very poor 301-400 | Severe >401

AIR QUALITY INDEX AT 4 P.M. YESTERDAY (AVERAGE OF PAST 24 HOURS) | SOURCE: CPCB

EDMC unveils compost plant in Anand Vihar

NEW DELHI

A one-tonne household waste-processing compost plant was inaugurated by the East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) and the Confederation of Indian Industry in Anand Vihar on Wednesday. The EDMC has set up three such plants under its jurisdiction so far and plans to instal seven more, Mayor Anju said. The project is expected to cover 5,000 households.

J&K students' safety: Pinjra Tod opposes police visits

Collective says step is making them more vulnerable

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Pinjra Tod, an autonomous women's collective, has written to Delhi Police Commissioner Amulya Patnaik alleging that police personnel have been going from "college to college and PG to PG" trying to identify Kashmiri women students over the past few days.

"The police personnel have cited 'the students own protection' as the reasons for the visits. However, the effect of the action has been quite contrary and has made people feel threatened and exposed in times when Kashmiri students are already facing public hostility from many corners. Such police visits have been made in hostels and colleges across Delhi University and even off campus residential areas around Jamia Millia Islamia," the collective alleged in its letter.

> It would be better if they issued warnings to RWAs, hostels indulging in harassment of Kashmiri people instead of surveilling them
>
> PINJRA TOD

It claimed that a police officer went to the warden of Miranda House College to collect the list of the names of Kashmiris, and their local and permanent residence.

The officials backed off when the students, with the help of the principal, intervened in the matter.

The activists said that another instance occurred in Jamia Nagar, where the police went to residential colonies enquiring whether women students and working professionals staying there were from Jammu and Kashmir. "It would be better if they issued warnings to RWAs, hostels indulging in harassment of Kashmiri people instead of surveilling them," Pinjra Tod said.

Heavy polarisation

It said that this kind of identification and profiling of people in times of heavy polarisation has only rendered students more vulnerable.

"Rather than giving students a sense of 'security', this act only enables and facilitates recognition and fuels communal hostility against Kashmiri Muslims," said the collective.

Pinjra Tod suggested that it would be more helpful if the police was more receptive and quick to act on instances of harassment being reported by Kashmiri students, by landlords, neighbours and others.

ABVP distances itself from DUSU installing busts on North Campus

Should wait for necessary permission, says students' outfit

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) on Wednesday distanced itself from the installation of busts of V.D. Savarkar and other leaders by the Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU) at the Arts Faculty.

DUSU president Shakti Singh had said on Tuesday that they had put up the busts of Savarkar, Bhagat Singh and Subhash Chandra Bose as a form of protest against the administration for not heeding to their demands of installing statues on the North Campus.

A policeman walks past the busts installed outside the Arts Faculty on the North Campus, on Wednesday. • PTI

'Keep it in DUSU office'

In a statement, the ABVP said that it was of the opinion that the statues be installed only after obtaining necessary permission from the university authorities.

While it supported the installation, a long-standing demand of the union, it said that the structures should be kept in the DUSU office until permission was granted.

Condemning the installation, the National Students' Union of India (NSUI) said that the ABVP was following the footsteps of the RSS in propagating "false nationalism" by equating a "mercy petition seeker like" Savarkar to other freedom fighters. It attacked his legacy, highlighting undertaking and apologies he had made to the erstwhile colonial government.

The All India Democratic Students' Union (AIDSA) also condemned the installation, attacking Savarkar's legacy. It stated that his project of forming a "Hindu Rashtra" was against Bhagat Singh and Subhash Chandra Bose's ideologies.

As of Wednesday evening, the busts had not been removed from the area, which belongs to the North Delhi Municipal Corporation. The Zonal Deputy Commissioner was unreachable for comment.

Hindu burial ground to come up in Dwarka

SIDHARTH RAVI
NEW DELHI

A Hindu burial ground will soon come up at Dwarka Sector 24, after a proposal was approved by the South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) on Wednesday.

The proposal was formed and approved based on a petition by an NGO, Basva International Centre, representing a demand of the Lingayat community in the city.

The community, predominant in Karnataka, has about 1,000 members residing in the Dwarka, the group petitioned.

"While culturally and religiously, members of the community are in harmony with many Hindu traditions, one of the major deviations in religious practices pertains to the disposal of body as Lingayats or Veerashaivas bury the dead as an established tradition," the proposal stated. It argued that lack of a burial ground in Delhi subjected the community to inconvenience of transporting bodies to Karnataka and other neighbouring States for burial.

About 2,000 sq ft of area, next to the children's burial ground at the SDMC-run crematorium in Dwarka, is being alloted for the purpose on humanitarian ground.

SOL students' hunger strike enters second day

They are against the semester system

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A hunger strike by student activists of the Krantikari Yuva Sangathan (KYS) and correspondence students, protesting the introduction of the semester system in Delhi University's School of Open Learning (SOL), entered its second day on Wednesday.

In a statement, the group stressed its opposition to the recent decision of the Executive Council to introduce the Choice Based Curriculum System (CBCS) to the SOL without discussion with stakeholders and without adequate preparations.

The syllabus, currently being distributed to students, was part of the old curriculum and could not simply be used in the new system without updating, the group argued.

'Will lead to chaos'

By not ensuring basic facilities such as quality library and other necessary infrastructure, implementing CBCS will only lead to chaos in the upcoming session, and ultimately the students will suffer, the KYS said.

In this regard it said that there was a reason enough to "foresee failure of lakhs of students in the upcoming December semester exams".

The group which has also called for the resignation of the Vice-Chancellor over the issue said that it would continue its strike until the decision is withdrawn.

DUSU polls to be held on September 12

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Elections to the Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU) and the Central Council of various colleges and departments will take place on September 12, the university announced on Wednesday.

The university set the last date for filing nomination papers, along with a demand draft of ₹500, as September 4. Scrutiny of the papers and publication of the nominated candidates will take place on the same day.

Following this, individuals will be allowed to withdraw their nomination papers by September 5, on which date the final list of candidates will also be published.

DELHI TODAY

Talk: A discussion on "Crucial Gaps in Delivering Health Care - What's Done? What's Ignored?" by Shailaja Chandra, former Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. The discussants include K. Sujatha Rao, former Health Secretary, Govt. of India; and Dr. Anand Krishnan, Professor, Centre for Community Medicine, AIIMS. Chair: Prof. K. Srinath Reddy, President, Public Health Foundation of India, Multipurpose Hall, India International Centre (IIC), 6.30 p.m.

Exhibition: "Recapturing the marvels of Rajasthan", a solo exhibition of acrylic on canvas, soft pastels on paper, water colour on paper and mixed media by Priyanka Banerjee at Convention Centre Foyer, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Exhibition: "Master Strokes 2019", a group exhibition by various artists at Visual Arts Gallery, IHC, 11 a.m.-7 p.m

Exhibition: "The Spiritual Gold - Banaras", an exhibition of paintings - abstracts, oil on canvas by Anand Narain at Art Gallery, IIC Annexe, IIC, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Exhibition: "In Search of the Celestial", an exhibition of sculptures by Sandip Chakraborty at Triveni Gallery, Triveni Kala Sangam, 205, Tansen Marg, 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

(Mail your listings for this column at cityeditordelhi@thehindu.co.in)

Green light to changes in layout plan for DDU Marg; BJP HQ untouched

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Changes to the layout plan of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Marg, dealing with the land on which the BJP's national HQ is built, were approved by the North Delhi Municipal Corporation's Standing Committee on Wednesday.

The proposal also states that the Central Public Works Department recommended that the location, plot and other aspects of the area allotted to the BJP will remain the same as the existing layout plan, and only the building plan will be scrutinised by the corporation.

The layout plan of the road has been changed on three occasions since it was first approved by the DDA in 2004. The current proposal envisages 21 modifications to the layout plan, which deal with 8,860 sq metres of land allotted to the BJP.

Among other modifications, it includes the change in land-use of the area from "residential to public and semi-public facility".

The area was found to be bounded with a temporary wall with construction under way, the proposal states.

The total land of DDU Marg layout plan measures 130.3 acres and is owned by the government.

IN BRIEF

HC to Michel: reply to plea against extra calls

NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court Wednesday asked Christian Michel James, an accused in the AgustaWestland VVIP chopper scam, to reply to the Tihar jail authorities' plea challenging an order allowing him to make international calls for 15 minutes a week in violation of prison rules. Justice Mukta Gupta said the reply should be filed within three weeks and listed the matter for further hearing on October 9. PTI

NDMC to recycle water of Lodi Garden lake

NEW DELHI

The New Delhi Municipal Council has formulated a plan to recycle water of Lodi Garden lake. NDMC Chairman Vijay Kumar Dev, while reviewing the water conservation plan of the lake, asked the officers concerned to ensure timely completion of the work and also instructed that a separate enclosure for stray dogs be maintained.

Biker mowed down by speeding bus, driver held

NEW DELHI

A 20-year-old man, identified as Aman Kumar, a resident of Khan Market, was mowed down by a speeding cluster bus on Monday evening on Shahjahan Road, the police said. The accused driver, Balwant Singh, has been arrested. The speeding bus hit the victim who was riding a two-wheeler, the police said, adding that he succumbed to injuries during treatment.

Protesters demand Ravidas temple be rebuilt at same site

Traffic comes to standstill as agitators march from Ramlila Maidan to Tughlakabad

NIKHIL M BABU
NEW DELHI

Thousands of protesters, from Punjab, Haryana and Delhi, marched towards the site of a demolished temple of Guru Ravidas in Tughlakabad forest area from Ramlila Maidan, about 20 km away, on Wednesday afternoon despite being stopped by the police.

Raising "Jai Bhim" slogans, they blocked the road in front of Civic Centre in the morning and then gathered at the Ramlila Maidan, from where the rally started around 2 p.m.

Bhim Army activists at Ramlila Maidan in New Delhi on Wednesday. • SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Traffic jam

The protest brought the movement of traffic in several parts of Delhi to a standstill, as police personnel struggled to bring the situation under control.

Traffic moved bumper-to-bumper in entire south- east Delhi, including Jasola Vihar, Greater Kailash, Alaknanda, Sangam Vihar, Kalkaji Mandir, roads leading to Govindpuri, Nehru Place and Badarpur.

A traffic police officer said the protesters were squatting on the roads and police personnel were trying to convince them to call off the protest.

Leading the march, Bhim Army chief Chandrashekhar Azad told *The Hindu*: "We are going to the temple site and will protest till the temple is rebuilt."

The temple in Tughlakabad was demolished by the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) on August 10 following a Supreme Court order. The DDA is headed by Lieutenant-Governor Anil Baijal, who is appointed by the Central government. The protesters also raised slogans against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the BJP.

AAP protest

Leaders of the Aam Aadmi Party, which has also been protesting against the demolition, took out a march from Ambedkar Bhawan to Ramlila Maidan. Social Welfare Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam said: "The DDA at the behest of the Central government demolished the Ravidas Temple at Tughlakabad. The DDA's action has once again proved to what extent the BJP considers Dalits, Sant Ravidas Panthis untouchable even today."

AAP MLA Ajay Dutt said that the real face of the BJP has been revealed. "BJP is playing with the feelings of the Dalits," he said.

'Hurt our feelings'

Balvender Singh, 25, from Punjab, came to Delhi to join the the protest on Tuesday and spent the night at the Bangla Sahib Gurdwara. "The Modi sarkar is trying to hurt the feelings of the Dalits. They have done it intentionally," he said.

Padam Singh Gautam, 54, who was selling posters, flags and books at the Ramlila Maidan, said that he goes to such events of Dalits to make a living. "They should not have demolished the temple. They are playing with the emotions of 30 crore followers of Guruji [Ravidas]."

From a stage erected on one end of the Ramlila Maidan, one of the speakers, shouted, "*Mandir kahan banega*?" "*Mandir vahin banega*," the crowd replied in unison.

As different Dalit groups had a disagreement over who should speak on the stage, a woman worker of the Bahujan Samaj Party was allegedly pushed down and manhandled.

"She and others wanted to gherao Parliament and there was a disagreement over it," said Satish Kumar, a protester.

(With PTI inputs)

BJP national leadership miffed at Delhi unit's handling of temple issue

Amit Shah reviewed the matter, sought details: party insiders

JATIN ANAND
NEW DELHI

The BJP's national leadership is peeved at the way its city unit reacted in the run-up to and the aftermath of the recent demolition of Guru Ravidas Mandir in south Delhi's Tughlakabad, said party sources.

BJP national chief Amit Shah had earlier this week sought details about the August 10 demolition of the temple and discussed the "mishandling of the issue" by the leaders of the city unit and its seven Delhi MPs, party insiders told *The Hindu*.

"The party's national leadership is unhappy with the fact that representatives from several bodies associated with the temple's management had met with many Delhi leaders and office-bearers on multiple occasions in the run-up to the demolition, but nothing was done to allay their concerns," a party source claimed.

Affixing responsiblity

"At a recent meeting of the national executive, it came to light that these representatives had also met some MPs seeking respite. While the demolition could not have been stopped as it was executed as per Supreme Court orders, its aftermath could have been prevented from snowballing into an inter-State political issue by the local leadership and the Delhi BJP MPs," the source said further.

With the Delhi Assembly elections scheduled "sooner than later", the national leadership is in the process of "affixing responsibility" for the alleged mishandling of the issue, said another party source. Sources claimed that senior leaders from the Delhi unit could be summoned for the exercise over the coming days.

Meanwhile, the party is exploring possible solutions to contain the issue. "The BJP is committed and working towards the restoration of the temple in its previous glory and its reconstruction at the same location where it stood before demolition," said Dushyant Kumar Gautam, BJP national vice-president and international president of Shri Guru Ravidas Vishwa Mahapeeth.

'A Pandora's box has been opened'

Dalit community gives Centre 3 months to rebuild shrine

AARUSHI AGGARWAL
NEW DELHI

Representatives of the Dalit community on Wednesday gave the government three months to rebuild Guru Ravidas Mandir, which was recently demolished.

Calling it a case of "judicial discrimination", Dalit leader Ashoka Bharti challenged the Supreme Court decision and alleged government inaction regarding demolition of the temple in Tughlakabad.

The temple was demolished by the Delhi Development Authority on August 10 on the orders of the Supreme Court, which decreed that the structure encroached on forest land. Following the demolition, a bandh was declared in Punjab and thousands of Dalits protested in the Capital.

The Akhil Bhartiya Sant Shiromani Guru Ravidas Mandir Sanyukt Sanrakshan Samiti said that the authorities had till November 26 to rebuild the temple even as it alleged that both the government and the courts were "prejudiced against the Dalit community".

The inconsistencies have "opened a Pandora's box", said Mr. Bharti.

"In the early 16th century, Sikander Lodhi, a follower of Guru Ravidas, had given him the land for a temple. In 1959, Union Minister Jagjivan Ram laid its foundation, two years after the DDA – which has challenged the legitimacy of the temple – was founded," he added.

The committee members also highlighted that the Ravidas Mandir was "not the only temple" on forest land. Mr. Bharti announced the community's resolve to challenge the Supreme Court's decision.

BJP demands talk on J&K issue on the eve of monsoon session

'Oppn. wants resolution in solidarity with Kashmir policy'

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Opposition BJP demanded a full-day discussion on the withdrawal of special status to Jammu and Kashmir in addition to the "merger of PoK in India" and a shift in India's nuclear policy on the eve of the Delhi Legislative Assembly's monsoon session here.

The monsoon session of the Delhi Assembly will commence on Thursday and conclude on August 26. If not extended by the government, the session will see three sittings.

Government sources said that AAP legislators are likely to discuss and praise the Delhi government's recent moves on regularisation of unauthorised colonies, proposed free travel for women in buses and metro trains and its decision to waive electricity charges of consumers using up to 200 units, among others.

The Opposition BJP, however, will seek to "expose" Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's "hypocrisy" in showing support to Article 370 and simultaneously "supporting the tukde tukde gang", said Leader of Opposition Vijender Gupta.

> **The Opposition BJP, will seek to expose Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's hypocrisy in showing support to Article 370 and simultaneously supporting the tukde-tukde gang**
>
> VIJENDER GUPTA
> Leader of Opposition in Delhi Assembly

"The Opposition wants that the Delhi Legislative Assembly unanimously pass a resolution expressing solidarity with the Government of India's Kashmir Policy. It would also urge the Delhi government to come to full circle of nationalism by according approval to filing chargesheet against Kanhaiya Kumar and his associates in the Delhi High Court that is pending for long," Mr. Gupta said.

The Leader of Opposition demanded that the first day of the session on Thursday be dedicated exclusively to the discussion on the government policy on Kashmir.

"BJP MLAs have written a letter on these lines to the Speaker. Though no reply has been received from the Speaker, it is hoped that he would accord approval to the request in national interest," he said.

Notices on 51 subjects

Mr. Gupta added that the Opposition would also raise public interest issues in the House and had filed notices on 51 subjects under Rule-33 so that "the truth on burning problems facing the public could be brought in public domain".

OYO apologises for denying room to Kashmiri man

Will not be able to forget the humiliation, says friend who booked room for him

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Four days after a man hailing from Kashmir was allegedly denied a room by online hotel aggregator, OYO Rooms, they have apologised for their action through a personal message to his friend who had booked the room for him.

Malik Aabid, a 24-year-old Jamia Millia Islamia student, said that his friend, a doctor who does not wish to be named, was in Delhi for work. He booked the OYO flagship in his friend's name in a property in Jasola Vihar on August 17, but said his friend was denied a room after he produced his Aadhaar card bearing his Jammu and Kashmir address.

OYO Rooms, on Wednesday evening, sent a direct message to Mr. Aabid on Twitter apologising for the "unfortunate" incident and asked him to share his contact details to "discuss this further".

In his response, Mr. Aabid said, "I appreciate this message but I don't think me and my friend will be able to get over with the 'humiliation' which we encountered on August 17. It has alienated our sense of 'other' [sic]".

Mr. Aabid told *The Hindu* that he appreciates the fact that they have apologised and hopes that such incidents do not happen again.

The manager at the hotel had allegedly told Mr. Aabid and his friend that they had received a few WhatsApp messages, apparently from the government, stating that people from Jammu and Kashmir should not be allowed in their hotels.

OYO Rooms had told *The Hindu* that they have warned the manager and asked him to verify the source of such "baseless" messages.

Elderly man bludgeoned to death, 1 held

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A 62-year-old man was bludgeoned to death allegedly by a fellow worker following a drunken argument in Mandir Marg on Monday evening, the police said on Wednesday. The accused has been arrested, they said.

The police said that the victim has been identified as Jeevan and the accused as Mohammed Zakir. Both, of them worked in a tent house shop in Gol Market.

The police control room received a call around 8.15 p.m. regarding a murder after which they reached the spot and found the victim lying on the footpath with an injury on the head. The victim was rushed to Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital where he succumbed to injuries on Tuesday.

During investigation, it was revealed that Jeevan and Zakir were drinking, when an argument broke out between the two over some petty issue. The accused then hit the victim on the head multiple times with a brick.

Video of chilli powder attack on policeman goes viral

Family of man whom the police had gone to arrest is behind the attack: officials

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The video of an incident wherein a constable was attacked with chilli powder by the family of an externee when the police had gone to apprehend him in Shahdara's Vivek Vihar on August 9, has gone viral on social media.

In the video, an officer can be seen confining a man to a cot with another officer holding a pistol in his hand trying to control a few people charging at him.

A senior police officer said that on August 9, the police received information that a man identified as Sajan Rahi, an externee and bad character of Vivek Vihar, was at his residence. The officer added that as per rules, Sajan was not supposed to stay in Delhi.

"Constable Pradeep, along with another officer went to his residence and when they apprehended him, his family members, including his brother Deepak Rahi resisted and interrupted the officers. Deepak threw chilli powder in Mr. Pradeep's eyes," the officer said, adding that Deepak has a case under Maharashtra Control of Organized Crime Act registered against him and is out on parole.

Fired in the air

The officer opened fire in the air to save himself and managed to arrest Sajan who has several robbery and snatching cases registered against him.

The police said that a case under Section 186 (obstructing public servant in discharge of public functions), 353 (assault or criminal force to deter public servant from discharge of his duty) and 332 (voluntarily causing hurt to deter public servant from his duty) of the Indian Penal Code has been lodged in connection with the incident and further probe is under way.

Centre takes steps to control onion prices in national capital

Govt. warns of strict action against hoarders and profiteers

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

With heavy rain in key onion-growing States, such as Maharashtra and Karnataka, fanning fears of a price rise, the Centre has taken steps to control onion rates in Delhi and warned of strict action against hoarders and profiteers.

With onions selling at ₹35-40 per kg at many retail outlets in the Capital, the Department of Consumer Affairs has directed government-owned Mother Dairy to sell onions at its own Safal shops at no more than ₹23.90 per kg for Grade-A variety. This was the prevailing price at Safal outlets on Wednesday, according to an official statement. The decision was taken following a meeting reviewing onion prices in the Capital chaired by Consumer Affairs Secretary Avinash K. Srivastava.

> **Government will evaluate the need for imposing minimum export price on onion if the situation so demands**
>
> GOVERNMENT STATEMENT

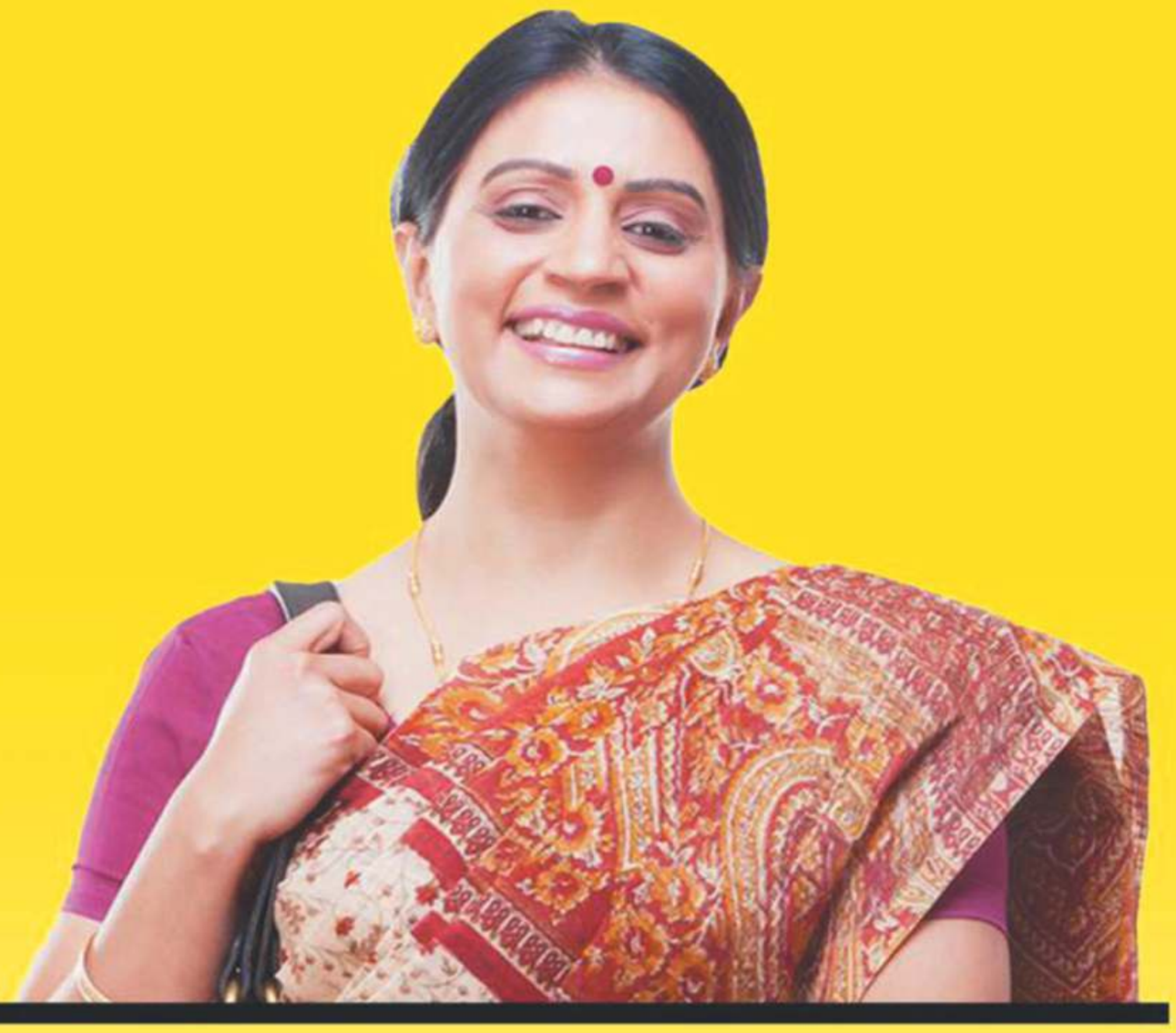
Safal, which owns about 400 outlets in the National Capital Region, is already being provided onions for sale from the government stock built under the Price Stabilisation Fund.

The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India and the National Cooperative Consumers Federation of India have also been directed to retail onions at similar rates. Onions from the government buffer will be offered at cost price to large retailers as well.

"Government will also consider strict action against hoarding and profiteering activities and evaluate the need for imposing minimum export price on onion if the situation so demands," added the statement.

My Delhi Safe Delhi

2,80,000 CCTV
cameras are being installed all over Delhi



Join the CCTV cameras campaign

The residents of Delhi, particularly women are very happy with the ongoing CCTVs installation work. It will lead to reduction in crimes and will make women feel safe and secure.

-Arvind Kejriwal
Chief Minister, Delhi

Dip/Shabdarth/D/0098/19-20

Delhi Government will pay the bill for 50 units of electricity bill for those households which will provide electricity connections from their homes for the installation of CCTV cameras in their areas. It will come in effect from the day of installation of the CCTV cameras.
(CCTVs consume less than 50 units of electricity per month)

The additional units of electricity units consumed for CCTV cameras will not affect the current electricity usage slab of the consumer. These additional units of electricity consumed due to CCTVs will not affect the subsidy being provided to them by the Delhi government.

दिल्ली सरकार
आप की सरकार

Public Works Department, Government of NCT of Delhi

दिल्ली सरकार
आप की सरकार

DELHI Timings

THURSDAY, AUG. 22			
RISE	05:54	SET	18:54
RISE	23:00	SET	11:33
FRIDAY, AUG. 23			
RISE	05:55	SET	18:53
RISE	23:39	SET	12:28
SATURDAY, AUG. 24			
RISE	05:55	SET	18:52
RISE	00:00	SET	13:27

Delhi Weather	max	min
Delhi City	36	25
Safdarjang	36	25
Palam	36	26

Delhi Palam Today
35°C A hazy and comfortable morning. Day will be warm with partly cloudy sky.

Delhi Palam Tomorrow
34°C A hazy and comfortable morning. Day will be warm with cloudy sky. Chances of light rain.

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IN BRIEF

Three held for extorting money at gunpoint

NEW DELHI

Three persons, identified as Ankit Bhalla, Kuldeep Dhull and Noor Alam, were arrested for their alleged involvement in extorting ₹50,000 from a shop in Dabri area at gunpoint. Alam is involved in eight criminal cases, said the police.

Man evading arrest for 12 years nabbed

NEW DELHI

A 40-year-old man, who was evading arrest for the last 12 years, was held from Zakir Nagar on Tuesday, the police said. DCP (Crime Branch) Ram Gopal Naik said, the accused Mohammed Yusuf, a resident of Jamia Nagar, was wanted in an attempt to murder case reported in 2005.

Homebuyers surrender 4,000 out of 8,000 allotted flats: DDA

Low-income group flats in Narela, Vasant Kunj among those returned

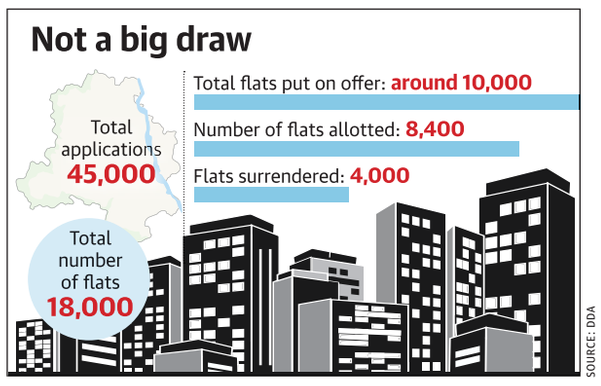
SHINJINI GHOSH
NEW DELHI

Out of the approximately 8,000 flats allotted by the Delhi Development Authority, around 4,000 of them have been surrendered by the allottees, officials of the DDA said on Wednesday.

The urban body had conducted a draw of lots for the housing scheme 2019 in July this year where around 10,000 flats, out of the total 18,000 flats, were put on offer.

Officials said that most of the flats surrendered by the allottees were low-income group (LIG) flats in Narela.

"Out of the 4,000 flats surrendered, most are LIG flats in Narela. While there are a few in Vasant Kunj as well, but the number is not much there. While we are yet to decide on what to do about these LIG flats, as of now, Delhi Police has shown interest in the middle-income group flats," said a senior DDA official.



The flats on offer under this year's scheme were newly constructed ones in Narela and Vasant Kunj. The land owning agency had earlier said that while there were over 45,000 applications under the scheme, flats in Narela had seen a tepid response.

"While the high-income group (HIG) and middle-income group (MIG) flats in Vasant Kunj got a good response with around 20 applications for each flat, the same was not the case in Narela," the official said.

Due to the low response, the DDA had put only 10,000 of the approximately 18,000 flats on offer while conducting the draw. Officials had said that the move was taken to "avoid scattering" of people in different blocks.

Special scheme

Meanwhile, the DDA will launch a special scheme for applicants under the SC/ST category on September 5. Approximately 500 flats will be put on offer under this scheme, said officials.

"Interested stakeholders have to apply online and there will be a draw of lots for allotment. Reservation ratio will be 2:1 for SC and ST category applicants," they said. Besides this, another scheme for the economically weaker section will also be launched on August 30, where the flats will be offered at a concessional rate.

Yamuna recedes but people to remain in camps for next 2 days

Water level is expected to fall below danger mark today

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The water level of Yamuna started to recede and is expected to fall below the danger mark in the early hours of Thursday.

About 21,000 people living in low lying areas have been evacuated since Sunday night and the government had erected around 4,000 tents for them, according to officials.

The water level had crossed the danger mark of 205.33 metres at the Old Yamuna Bridge at 6 p.m. on Monday and since then stayed above it. However, at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, water level was 206.50 metres, down from 206.60 metres in the morning.

"The water level is expected to fall to 205.25 metres between 4 a.m. and 5 a.m. on Thursday. Now only 10,000 cusecs of water is being released from Hathini Kund Barrage in Haryana and it is very less a quantity to increase the water level here," an official said.

On Sunday evening, Haryana had released 8.28 lakh cusecs of water and it had led to rise in water level in the Capital.

"Water is receding, but people will stay in the tents for the next two days at least. We will review the situation and take a decision after it,"Additional District Magistrate [East] Arun Gupta told *The Hindu*. The official said that the Old Yamuna Bridge, which was closed for traffic on Monday, will continue to remain closed on Thursday.

Hutments submerged in water on the banks of the Yamuna on Wednesday. ▪SANDEEP SAXENA

In the evening, Chief Minister Arvind Kejrwial said in a tweet, "Now you can relax. For now, there is no danger of flood. Yamuna water has been decreasing continuously for few hours. Less water is also being released from Haryana. Yamuna level had reached 206.60. It is now 206.44. There was a lot of tension for two days. We were monitoring the situation day and night. [sic]"

Govt. machinery in action

The government is providing water, food, electricity, and medical facilities among others to people who have been moved to tents.

Raj Kumar, 40, from Delhi Civil Defence, who works at a camp in Mayur Vihar Phase 1 said that they have set up around 250 tents in the area. He said only some farms close to the Yamuna have been flooded.

CM inspects relief camp

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Wednesday inspected a relief camp at north-east Delhi's Usmanpur located on the east bank of the Yamuna. The CM interacted with the flood-affected families being housed in tents set up by the Delhi government.

The arrangements for tents, food and water and medicines were found to be satisfactory, the Delhi government said in a statement.

The BJP, however, accused the Delhi government of "awakening from its slumber" only when Delhi is flooded and demanded that it find a permanent solution to the problems of people living on the Yamuna floodplains.

Court refuses to cancel NBW against Ratul Puri

NIRNIMESH KUMAR
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Wednesday refused to cancel NBW against Ratul Puri in a money laundering case connected with the VVIP chopper deal.

Dismissing Mr. Puri's application for cancellation of the arrest warrant, special judge Arvind Kumar said: "The accused did not join the probe on different dates despite repeated notices from the ED. Accused had left the ED office on July 26 without signing his statement. He had made himself unavailable and his whereabouts could not be ascertained."

Kejriwal, Sisodia, others discharged in 2014 case

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

A court here has discharged Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, his deputy Manish Sisodia and others on Wednesday in a case of alleged violation of prohibitory orders and obstructing public servants during an agitation in 2014.

Besides Mr. Kejriwal and Mr. Sisodia, Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Samar Vishal also granted relief to other AAP leaders – Kumar Vishwas, Gopal Rai, Sanjay Singh and Dilip Pandey. Former AAP members Prashant Bhushan and Yogendra Yadav and others were also granted the relief.

Interfaith marriage: mahapanchayat to chalk out future course of action

Outfits claim woman is in captivity; offer support to family

ASHOK KUMAR
NUH

Support poured in for the woman's family from various Hindu outfits on Wednesday even as the market in Ferozepur Jhirka's Lal Kuan Chowk remained shut for the third consecutive day in protest against the interfaith marriage. A mahapanchayat will be held on Sunday to chalk out future course of action.

Lal Kuan Chowk remains shut for the third consecutive day on Wednesday. ▪ASHOK KUMAR

Subhash Singla, a member of Sangarsh Samiti spearheading the protest, claimed that the Hindu outfits from Alwar, Hodal, Punhana, Rohtak, Gurugram, Sohna and Sonipat had come forward offering support.

"The samiti had given three-days time to the Muslim community leaders to return the woman to her parents. After the Wednesday deadline ended, we have decided to open the market for three days and hold a mahapanchayat on Sunday," said Mr. Singla.

He alleged that the woman had not gone on her own and there was a growing trend of Hindu girls being lured by Muslim youth.

Aalam Mandal, a Muslim leader, said the whereabouts of the man and the woman were not known. He said that efforts were being made to maintain communal harmony.

Around 250 police personnel have been deployed in the market, where the Sangarsh Samiti is holding *dharna*, to prevent any law and order situation.

Nem Chand Saini, who runs Saini Sound Service in the market, said, several hundred shops in the market were closed and the support from traders was not forced.

The woman, 20, had gone missing on August 14 from outside her college. She along with the man appeared before the court on August 17 to claim that they were married and sought police protection.

Woman's appeal

Meanwhile, the woman in a six-minute video, which went viral, claimed that she had married the man on her own and both loved each other. She made an appeal to her community not to resort to violence since it was a matter of personal choice for two adults.

Reacting to the video, Mr. Singla said the woman had been acting under pressure from the man and his community. He alleged that she was in captivity and being dictated to say what she was saying.

Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Ferozepur Jhirka, Reagan Kumar said the district administration had held several rounds of meetings with the two parties to de-escalate the situation. "The family's allegation that the woman was acting under pressure can be confirmed only after she appears before the police," said Mr. Kumar.

Man held on suspicion of abducting girl

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A 21-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of kidnapping a 12-year-old girl in outer-north Delhi's Samaypur Badli on Wednesday morning, the police said. Locals caught the accused and handed him over to the police.

DCP (Outer-North) Gaurav Sharma said that the accused, Vimlesh, who is pursuing graduation, claimed that he had found the girl roaming on the road after which he asked her where she lived with the intention to drop her home. A case has been registered and probe is on.

झारखण्ड सरकार
झारखण्ड ग्रामीण स्वास्थ्य मिशन समिति
स्वास्थ्य चिकित्सा शिक्षा एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग, झारखण्ड
नामकुम, राँची।
फोन न0– 0651–2261000,2261856–2261002 मेल आई0डी0–nhmjharkhand2018@gmail.com

दर आमंत्रण सूचना

निदेशानुसार, झारखण्ड ग्रामीण स्वास्थ्य मिशन समिति कार्यालय नामकुम, राँची में खाद्य सुरक्षा प्रतिवेदन से संबद्ध एक वेबसाइट विकसित किया जाना है।

इस संदर्भ में इच्छुक स्थानिय सेवा प्रदाता फर्म 29-08-2019 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक वेबसाइट विकसित करने हेतु दर विवरणी (सभी कर सहित) बंद लिफाफे में Procurement Cell में समर्पित कर सकते हैं। सेवा प्रदाता का चयन न्यूनतम दर के आधार पर किया जाएगा। कार्यादेश प्राप्त होने के 1 महीने के भीतर कार्य संपन्न करना होगा। विस्तृत कार्य विवरण http://jrhms.jharkhand.gov.in, पर व आई टी कोशांग/ खाद्य सुरक्षा कोशांग, झारखण्ड ग्रामीण स्वास्थ्य मिशन समिति कार्यालय, नामकुम, दूरभाश न. 9065527531 से सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है। कार्य हेतु किसी प्रकार का अग्रिम भुगतान नहीं किया जाएगा।

PR 214757 Jharkhand Rural Health Mission Society(19-20)D

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झारखण्ड

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• WAZIRPUR A-5, Near Richi Rich Banquet (Opp. Shalimar Bagh)
• JANAKPURI B-1/2, Main Najafgarh Road, Opp. Metro Pillar 543
• NOIDA, Nirula's Sec-2, Near Metro Station, Sec-15, Noida, UP
• LAJPAT NAGAR, 49, Main Ring Road, Adj. Haldi Ram, Near Moolchand Crossing

हरियाणा सरकार

TENDER NOTICE

SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP. /AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT / EMD IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	HARYANA FOREST DEVE. CORP LTD GURUGRAM	HARVESTING OF TREES FOR THE YEAR 2019-20 FROM FOREST AND NON-FOREST AREAS WITH EXTRACTION OF STUMPS (ROOTS), CONVERSION INTO LOGS, FUEL WOOD, MEASUREMENT, RECORDING, LOADING, CARRIAGE, UNLOADING & STACKING (MAKING LOTS) IN SALE DEPOT OF ROUND TIMBER COMPLETING ALL WORKS INCLUDING FILLING OF PITS ETC. + 1 OTHER WORK	20.08.2019 28.08.2019	EMD-78000	www.hfdc.gov.in	9815450657 gm.gurgaon@hfdc.gov.in
2	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE DHARUHERA	REPAIR & RENOVATION OF WELCOME GATE(GANTRY BOARD) NEAR BESTEK CITY IN MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, DHARUHERA, (RETENDER-III TIME) TENDER DATED-(1ST-02.07.19, (2ND-19.07.19) + 8 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING 29.08.2019	55.42	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01274-242692 secy.mc.dharuhera@gmail.com
3	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION SONIPAT	CONSTRUCTION OF VARIOUS CEMENT CONCRETE STREET IN JIVEEN VIHAR MURTHAL ROAD WARD NO.8 M.C.SONIPAT + 4 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING 28.08.2019	306.14 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	semcsonepat@gmail.com
4	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION GURUGRAM	HIRING OR TRACTOR MOUNTED PUMP SET WITH DRIVER AND OPERATION WITH DIESEL FOR DIVERSION OF SEWER/RAIN WATER AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS OF WARD NO. 27, UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF ZONE-IV, MCG. + 3 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING 26.08.2019	23.96 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9821395221 ee3@mcg.gov.in
5	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE KHARKHODA	COMPLETION OF COMMUNITY CENTRE NEAR PARTAP SCHOOL SITUATED AT M.C.KHARKHODA M.C KHARKHODA	CLOSING 28.08.2019	3.09 LACS	etenders.hry.nic.in	8222002777 yogeshrathi89@gmail.com
6	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE UKLANA	CONSTRUCTION OF SANITATION PARK & SHED FOR MANUAL COMPOSTING PLANT AT MC UKLANA	20.08.2019 29.08.2019	10 LACS	https://www.etenders.hry.nic.in	Municipal Engineer
7	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF STREET WITH INTERLOCKING PAVER BLOCK 80MM THICK (ISI MARK ALONGWITH 15 TO 20% COLORED TILES) AT VARIOUS PLACES IN MAJRA MEHTAB, W. NO. 2, KALKA. (RECALL) + 13 OTHER WORKS	21.08.2019 26.08.2019	368.12 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0172-2583695 mcpanchkula@gmail.com
8	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE TARAORI	CONST OF BOUNDARY WALL OF PROPOSED PARK NEAR KILLA KATZU NAGAR WAR NO.1 (TARAORI) + 17 OTHER WORKS	13.08.2019 29.08.2019	123.20 LACS	http://etenders.hry.nic.in	secymc.tarauri@hry.nic.in
9	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE JULANA	DOOR TO DOOR GARBAGE COLLECTION FROM ALL THE RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, EDUCATIONAL INDUSTRIAL AND OTHER UNITS OF ALL WARDS (1 TO 13) MC JULANA	17.08.2019 26.08.2019	EMD-25000	http://etenders.hry.nic.in	01683-275733 secmcjulana@gmail.com
10	THE ROHTAK CO-OP MILK PRODUCERS UNION LTD	SUPPLY OF POUCH FILLING MACHINE	26.08.2019 15.09.2019	15000	www.vitaindia.org.in	vitarohtak@gmail.com
11	HARYANA TOURISM CORP LTD	SELECTOR OF CONTRACTOR FOR CONSTRUCTION OF 40 FEET GRAND STATUE OF LORD KRISHNA VISHWA ROOP AT JYOTISAR KURUKSHETRA	30.07.2019 26.08.2019	EMD-10 LACS	http://etenders.hry.nic.in	Exec Eng
12	HSAMB KAITHAL	ANNUAL REPAIR OF VARIOUS LINK ROADS PUNDRI CONSTITUENCY (GROUP-1) 2019-20 ID-220, 188,189, 5719, 186, 5138, 209 & 226 + 12 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING 29.08.2019	60.98 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01746-222374 xenkaithal1.hsamb@gmail.com
13	HSAMB ROHTAK	CONSTRUCTION OF BLOCK AGRICULTURE OFFICE (BAO) AT 1ST FLOOR OF EXISTING SOIL TESTING LAB IN NGM AT KALANAUR AND ANNUAL MAINTENANCE OF VARIOUS MANDIS/BOARD PROPERTIES KALANAUR & MEHAM OF ROHTAK DIVISION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2019-20	CLOSING 04.09.2019	AS PER APPROVED DNIT	http://etenders.hry.nic.in	01262-270274 xenrohtak.hsamb@gmail.com
14	DHBVN	SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING OF ELECTRIC LINES UP TO 11 KV VOLTAGE LEVEL ON TURNKEY BASIS BY EXECUTING THE WORK UNDER LRP SCHEME ON URBAN FEEDERS IN DIVISION PALWAL NIT NO-08/SE/OP/ /2019-20	19.08.2019 09.09.2019	9.01 CRORE	www.dhbvn.org.in	01275-242536, sepalwaldhbvn1@gmail.com
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17	HPGCL	(NIT NO 331762) SUB:- ASH HANDLING SPARES	13.08.2019 11.09.2019	6.25 LACS	www.hpgcl.org.in	0180-2566015 xenmtcplg1@gmail.com
18	HVPN	FOR ARRESTING OF T/F OIL LEAKAGE OF 100 MVA,220/66 KV T/F T-2(MAKE-KANOHAR) AT 220 KV S/STN TEPLA	20.08.2019 29.08.2019	1.60 LACS	https://hvpnl.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpn.org.in

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in
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(A)

Sl. No.	Job No./ Work Name	Amount
1	63/D(H)/DD(H)-I/2019-20, D/o RSP (Theme Painting on Different Flyovers from Sec-14A Main Gate to Mahamaya Flyover on Expressway). Noida	Cost Rs. 23.00 Lacs

Which can be uploaded by Date: 28.08.2019 upto 05:00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on Date: 29.08.2019 at 11:00 AM.

(B)

Sl. No.	Job No./ Work Name	Amount
1	74/D(H)/DD(H)-I/2019-20, D/o RSP (Theme Painting on every third pillar of elevated road upto cap bottom). Noida	Cost Rs. 23.40 Lacs

Which can be uploaded by Date: 05.09.2019 upto 05:00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on Date: 06.09.2019 at 11:00 AM.

Office: Sector-39, NOIDA — Director (Hort.), Noida

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DELHI THE HINDU
THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 2019

Punjab seeks ₹1,000 cr. as flood relief package

CM Amarinder Singh explains situation in a letter to PM

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH

The Punjab government has written to the Prime Minister seeking ₹1,000 crore as special flood relief package.

Chief Minister Amarinder Singh in a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday also urged him to instruct the authorities concerned to waive crop loans of banks and financial institutions availed of by the affected farmers.

The flooding in the river Sutlej due to discharge of water from the Bhakra Dam has caused extensive damage to standing crops and inundated residential areas in the villages, wrote the Chief Minister, adding that an early estimate suggested the damage to be more than ₹1,700 crore.

A jawan from the Vajra Corps of Western Command rescuing an old woman in Jalandhar on Wednesday. ▪PTI

Natural calamity

The State government has declared it a natural calamity in the affected areas, said the Chief Minister, adding that though necessary assistance was given by the Army authorities, the floods in the river Sutlej had severely damaged standing crops, houses and other rural and urban infrastructure at many places, especially in the districts of Ropar, Ludhiana, Jalandhar and Kapurthala covering over 100 villages.

The request from the Chief Minister came amid reports that 326 villages across the State have been adversely affected, with loss of standing crops on nearly 1.20 lakh acres.

According to an official spokesperson, with rescue and relief operations on a war-footing, 5,023 people have so far been rescued from the affected villages.

Food packets dropped

Helicopters of the Army were pressed into service on Wednesday to airdrop food packets in flood-hit villages of Jalandhar district as they remain inundated because of breaches in the embankments of the Sutlej river.

(With PTI inputs)

'Bhakra board handled floods successfully'

Controlled water release tackled one of the worst floods in 40 years: BBMB chief

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH

As Punjab faced the flood fury during the past few days, Bhakra Beas Management Board chairman D.K. Sharma on Wednesday said it could successfully handle one of the worst floods of the last 40 years in the State by resorting to controlled water release.

"Unprecedented rain on the intervening night of August 17 and 18 generated around 3,11,130 cusecs of inflow into the Bhakra dam, raising the water level up to 1,681.33 feet on August 19. This water inflow was more than that in 1988, when Punjab saw its worst floods," said Mr. Sharma at a press conference here.

He said the water level at the Bhakra reservoir at present was 1679.5 feet. "We had to resort to controlled water release through spillway gates, keeping in view the safety of the dam. Though the inflow into the Bhakra dam has receded, yet it is still in the range of about 50,000-60000 cusecs. We are monitoring the inflow into the Bhakra reservoir continuously and accordingly release of water from the dam is being reviewed on an hourly basis," he said.

"BMB by resorting to controlled water release could successfully handle one of the worst floods in the last 40 years," Mr. Sharma said. He said that it has also been decided that the present reservoir water level should be brought down by at least another 5 feet as more than one month of the current monsoon season is still left.

Meanwhile, Punjab Local Bodies Minister Brahm Mohindra has issued directions to ensure comprehensive measures to nullify any chance of disease outbreak in the State, especially in the low-lying areas in view of heavy rain lashing the State during the past few days.

Minister holds meeting

Chairing a meeting to review the overall preparedness of the department, Mr. Mohindra instructed the authorities to put the low-lying areas under surveillance and pump out stagnated water immediately.

Dams full: Rajasthan towns to get more water

285 of the total of 810 big and small dams in the State are full to their capacity

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
JAIPUR

With several of the big dams in Rajasthan filling up to their full storage capacity following excess rain this monsoon, the Water Resources Department has devised an action plan to supply more drinking water to the towns of Jaipur, Ajmer and Tonk districts. Two gates of the Bisalpur dam in Tonk were opened after the water level neared its full capacity of 38.7 thousand million cubic feet.

In the 22 big dams in the State, 7,085 million cubic metres of water has arrived against their total storage capacity of 8,104 million cubic metres. The dams which became full to the brim by Wednesday included Kota Barrage, Mahi Bajaj Sagar, Bisalpur, Morel, Som Kamla Amba, Jawahar Sagar and Jakham.

High flow in rain

Water Resources Department's Chief Engineer K.D. Sandu said the arrival of water had touched an average of 77.16% of the total storage capacity of all the dams in the State. The flow of water was higher in the Kota and Udaipur divisions during the rain which was 42% higher than the average rainfall, while 285 of the total of 810 big and small dams in the State were full to their capacity.

Lake to get water

The Public Health Engineering Department (PHED), dealing with the drinking water supply, has decided to increase the volume of supply from September 1 and is also considering a proposal to supply water from Bisalpur dam to fill up 'maotha' – a historic lake – at the base of Amber Fort near Jaipur.

PHED Principal Secretary Sandeep Verma said the water supply mechanism would stabilise in Jaipur and elsewhere during the next couple of months, with the volume being increased from 330 million litres per day to 360 million litres per day and the duration of supply from 45 minutes to 60 minutes per day.

Legal help to NRC-excluded in Assam

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

The Congress in Assam has offered legal help to those who would be excluded from the final National Register of Citizens to be published on August 31.

Some NGOs have made similar offers, while Independent MP Naba Sarania has said he will appoint 500 people to aid non-Bodo residing in the Bodoland Territorial Council areas who might not make it to the list.

The offers have followed the Centre's assurance that people left out of the NRC would be given 120 days to present their cases before the Foreigners' Tribunals.

"We don't want any foreigners to find their place in the NRC. At the same time, no Indian should be taken off the list. Genuine Indians should maintain calm... Our party has set in motion the process of providing legal help," State Congress president Ripun Bora said on Wednesday.

"We will approach the Supreme Court if needed," Mr. Sarania said. The All Assam Students' Union has resented the bid by "vested interests" to give a communal colour to the process. "The process is all about differentiating the Indian citizens from foreigners," said AASU leader.

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THE HINDU

22 students, school principal in hospital after mid-day meal

Students of Pune school complain of nausea, stomach ache after eating khichdi

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE
PUNE

As many as 22 students and the principal of Rambhau Mhalgi secondary school in Katraj fell ill in a case of suspected food poisoning after consuming a mid-day meal on Wednesday.

According to the Bharati Vidyapeeth police station officials, the students and their principal complained of nausea and stomach ache after eating a typical meal of khichdi prepared by a self-help group (SHG) that was awarded a contract for providing meals by the school.

All students were rushed to the nearby Bharati Hospital, where authorities said that four students have been admitted while the rest were discharged after a while.

"*Prima facie*, it appears to be a case of food poisoning. Of these four, one has been admitted to the ICU as a precautionary measure," said Dr. Sanjay Lalwani, Medical Director, Bharati Hospital, adding that the food samples would be sent for further testing.

Remarking that the SHG serving the meal would be given a warning, Meenakshi Raut, Deputy Director of Education, Pune, said 120 students from Classes VIII, IX and X along with some teachers and the principal had consumed the meal following which some of them fell sick.

"A report on this would be sent to the Education Commissioner who would then decide on the proper course of action to be taken against the SHG," she said.

Students of Rambhau Mhalgi secondary school in Pune being attended to at Bharati Hospital after an incident of food poisoning on Wednesday. ▪ MANDAR TANNU

'QNet raised funds for Zakir Naik'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI

An organization of fraud victims alleged here on Wednesday that QNet, a marketing firm accused of committing a multi-crore rupee fraud, was used for raising funds for controversial Islamic preacher Dr. Zakir Naik, who is wanted by Indian investigation agencies in terror-related cases, is currently living in Malaysia.

The Financial Frauds Victims Welfare Association alleged in a statement here that QNet was used as a "fund- raising channel" for Dr. Naik. The NIA is looking into this aspect after Gurpreet Anand, a whistleblower, filed a complaint, it said. Some people associated with QNet helped and protected Dr. Naik when he fled to Malaysia, it said.

Molten iron falls on workers, 2 die

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NASHIK

Two workers were killed and one was injured after hot molten iron accidentally fell on them at an iron rods manufacturing unit in Nashik, a police official said on Wednesday.

The incident took place on Tuesday at the private production unit located at an industrial estate in Dindori taluka, he said.

"While the production was underway, the hot molten iron accidentally fell on three workers," the official said.

One of them, Komal Kumar Gautam (21), died on the spot while Pramod Paswal (32), succumbed to his injuries later at a private hospital, he said.

Another 30-year-old worker, was undergoing treatment for burns at a local hospital, he said.

All in a day's (school)work

Nothing normal about this: Students of the nearly century-old Sangli Public School, the first school to be started in the city, put out books, files and benches to dry. These were damaged in the floods this month. ▪ UDAY DEOLEKAR

The Maharashtra Cabinet has already announced ₹6,813-crore assistance for the flood-hit people, out of which ₹4,708 crore was allocated to Kolhapur, Sangli and Satara and ₹2,105 crore to Konkan and Nashik. ▪ DEEPAK KUMBHAR

State announces rehabilitation package for submerged villages

Plan to be rolled out in 100 villages immediately: Patil

SHARAD VYAS
MUMBAI

The Maharashtra government has announced that villages that were fully submerged in the recent floods will be rehabilitated either on State land or private land that the government is willing to buy at market rate, said Chandrakant Patil, Cabinet Minister for Revenue, PWD (Excluding Undertakings) and Guardian Minister for Kolhapur and Pune, on Wednesday.

The senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader said the plan will be put in place first for over 100 villages on an immediate basis.

The first of the villages to be fully rehabilitated on revenue land will be in the vicinity of Pune. "If that is not available, we will rehabilitate the village on private land," he said.

The minister also took stock of the affected areas in the region and said the government is providing all the required assistance, including ₹5,000 as immediate relief and foodgrains.

Mr. Patil said the government will do everything possible to rehabilitate over 300 submerged villages in Pune and Kolhapur. "It has also undertaken on a priority basis rehabilitation of damaged bridges. We are informing the victims of State benefits made available after the floods," he said, after the tour on Wednesday.

The Maharashtra Cabinet has already announced ₹6,813-crore assistance for flood-hit people, out of which ₹4,708 crore was allocated to Kolhapur, Sangli and Satara and ₹2,105 crore to the Konkan and Nashik.

The State Cabinet has already decided to pay ₹16,602 as compensation towards the destruction of a pucca home while approving ₹5,200 for partial damage to houses.

Meanwhile, ₹4,000 will be compensated for a hutment.

An estimated 23,000 homes have been destroyed while others have been partially damaged, officials said. Senior officials said the Cabinet has approved ₹222 crore for rebuilding homes.

Donations pour in from celebrities, banks

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI

Several celebrities, banks and trade organisations have come forward to help the flood victims in Maharashtra by contributing to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund.

Legendary singer Lata Mangeshkar on Tuesday donated ₹11 lakh while superstar Aamir Khan contributed ₹25 lakh for the flood relief.

Hailing their gesture, Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis in a tweet said, "Thank you @aamir_khan for your contribution of Rs 25 lakh towards #CMReliefFund #MaharashtraFloods."

"We are also thankful to Respected Lata Didi for the contribution of Rs 11 lakh towards #CMReliefFund #MaharashtraFloods!" Mr. Fadnavis said in another tweet.

Besides, the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation donated ₹ 1 crore, Kolhapur District Central Cooperative Bank ₹21.98 lakh, Hajrat Haji Abdul Rehman Sailani Shahbaba Trust, Buldhana, ₹5 lakh, while an organisation of citizens in Pune gave ₹7 lakh.

The Urban Cooperative Credit Society at Baner contributed ₹11 lakh and Shri Bhairavnath Devasthan Trust at Baner gave ₹15 lakh.

Also, the Mumbai District Central Cooperative Bank Ltd contributed ₹21 lakh, Apna Sahakari Bank Ltd ₹25 lakh, Fruit & Vegetable Merchant Association and Retail Vegetable Trader Mahasangh ₹25.25 lakh, and Mathadi Transport & General Kamgar Union ₹30 lakh to the CM's Relief Fund.

Heavy floods battered western Maharashtra and the Konkan region earlier this month.

Man kills infant nephew over domestic feud, held

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NAGPUR

A man allegedly killed his one- month-old nephew over a domestic row in Nagpur, the police said on Wednesday. The accused, Ganesh Borkar (41), has been arrested.

The incident took place on Monday at the house of Mr. Borkar's in-laws in Parseoni village.

The accused was apparently upset after his wife left home due to frequent quarrels with him and came to reside with her parents, an official at Parseoni police station said.

On Monday, Mr. Borkar came to his in-laws' house, where his wife's younger sister Rupali Pande and the latter's one-month-old child had also come for a visit. He enquired from Mr. Pande about his wife, who was not present at home.

He asked him why they were not sending his wife back to his place.]This led to a heated argument between them following which he stabbed the baby who was sleeping on a bed, with a knife and fled, the official said. The child was rushed to a hospital where doctors declared him brought dead.

Super 50: an initiative for tribal students to fulfil dreams

State launches a residential programme for smart, young minds

ZELAM PHADKE
MUMBAI

Maharashtra's Tribal Development Department in association with the Pace Educational Trust on Tuesday launched an academic programme for young tribal students aspiring to be doctors and engineers.

Inspired by the work of Patna's Anand Kumar and his Super 30, which prepares smart but underprivileged students to sit for IIT entrance exams, the Super 50 programme will mentor 50 most meritorious tribal students from the State and prepare them for engineering and medical exams.

According to a GR issued by the Government of Maharashtra on August 2, the IIT'ians Pace Academy proposed the project for tribal students who have passed their Class X examinations. The Tribal Development Department then formed a working committee for its evaluation, and submitted a proposal to the Union government. After seeking approvals, the department held a first round of the entrance test on June 28, followed by a second round on July 14.

After evaluation, 34 students were selected for the engineering course and 16 for the medical course training programme, the GR said. All selected students are from government-run Adivasi ashram schools, Eklavya Nivasi ashram schools, and English medium ashram schools.

The students will be trained at the Vagad Pace Global School, Virar, under a dedicated faculty, and the coaching will include Class XI and XII of CBSE syllabus and preparations for entrance tests like NEET and JEE. It will be a two-year residential programme, where the students will be provided hostel and mess facilities, a tablet, NCERT books and career counselling.

The programme was launched at the Vagad Pace School on Tuesday by Dr. Ashok Uike, Maharashtra's Tribal Development Minister. Dr. Uike said,"Students should have strong willpower to do something in life, but it is not possible without self-confidence. With the 'Super 50' scheme, I am certain that these tribal students will achieve higher levels of success and knowledge."

Manisha Verma, Principal Secretary, Tribal Development Department, said, "Over the next two years, these tribal students will work hard and be ready to fulfil their dreams of becoming successful engineers and doctors."

First batch: The group of 50 students selected after a two-stage exam process; (below) Manisha Verma, principal secretary, Tribal Development Department, with the children on Wednesday. ▪ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

2 killed in clash between two groups

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
AKOLA

Two persons were killed and one was seriously injured in a clash between two groups over an old dispute in Akola, police said on Wednesday. Five people were held in connection with this, police inspector Gajanan Shelke said.

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
VELUGU
Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty
2nd Floor, NTR Administrative Block, PNBS, Vijayawada-520013.

Name of the Assignment: Selection of Agency for evaluation of State Sponsored Welfare Schemes.

Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP) invites Technical and Financial Proposals for selection of agency for evaluation of State Sponsored Welfare Schemes. Interested firms may submit "Supporting documents for Pre-Qualification, Technical and Financial Proposals" in a sealed envelope, clearly super scripted as **"Technical and Financial Proposals"** indicating the Title of the Assignment and also mention **"Do not open, except in presence of the Authorized Persons of SERP".** Interested firms may obtain further information about the requirements and procedures for submitting the technical and Financial Proposals at **http://www.serp.ap.gov.in.**

The Technical and Financial proposals must be delivered to the address given below on or before **09-09-2019** before **3.00 PM.**

Director (Procurement), Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP)
2nd Floor, NTR Administrative Block, PNBS, Vijayawada-520013.
Contact No. **0866-2410017**. Email Address: **spmproc@gmail.com**

DIPR 98PP/CL, Dt: 21-08-2019 **Sd/- Chief Executive Officer**

एसजेवीएन लिमिटेड
(भारत सरकार एवं हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार का संयुक्त उपक्रम)
SJVN Limited
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of H.P.)
A 'Mini Ratna' & Schedule 'A' PSU
CIN No. L40101HP1988GOI008409

NATHPA JHAKRI HYDRO POWER STATION
PRESS NOTICE
(E-Tender No. PCD-2565)

Online bids (e-tender) on Domestic Competitive Bidding (DCB) are invited on behalf of SJVN Foundation for, **"Construction of School Building in Temporary Colony at NJHPS, Nathpa" (PCD-2565)** For details, please visit websites **www.sjvn.nic.in, https://sjvn.abcprocure.com** & **www.eprocure.gov.in.**
Last date for downloading of bid documents is 12.09.2019 (12:00 Hrs.).
Last date for bid submission is 13.09.2019 (13:00 Hrs.).
Amendment (s), if any, shall be issued on above websites only.

For and on behalf of SJVN Foundation
DGM(P&C) NJHPS Jhakri, Distt. Shimla (H.P.)

SAVE ENERGY FOR BENEFIT OF SELF & NATION

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice

01. Name of work with its location : Outsourcing Of Non Power Block Activites Over Sonepur Division For Two Years. **02. Approx. cost of the work (₹) :** ₹2,55,96,512/- **03. Earnest Money to be deposited (₹) :** ₹2,78,000/- **Cost of tender forms (₹) :** ₹10,000.00/- **04. Date & time for submission of e-tender and opening of e-tender : Submission of e-tenders :** 16.09.2019 till 13.00 hrs. **Opening of e-tenders :** On 16.09.2019 at 13.00 Hrs. in the office of the Sr. Divl. electrical Engineer (TRD), DRM Office, E.C. Railway, Sonpur. **05. Website particulars and notice board location where complete details of e-tender can be seen. :WEBSITE:** http://www.ireps.gov.in **NOTICE BOARD :** DRM Office Campus, E.C. Railway, Sonepur.

Divisional Electrical Engineer (IC)/TRD
East Central Rail/Sonpur
PR/01037/SEE/ELEC/ T/19-20/28

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
(CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATION)
E-TENDER NOTICE No. 30-CECMS-1920-PBW-404-III
Dated: 20.08.2019

For and on behalf of The President of India, The Chief Engineer, Construction, Southern Railway, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008 invites e-tender for the following work(s) as per Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) in our portal **www.ireps.gov.in**. The tenderers/contractors intending to apply for the tender needs to get enrolled in the portal **www.ireps.gov.in** and **only online tenders will be accepted**. The cost of the tender form and the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) should be made through online payment gateway available in the website by the way of multiple bank's net-banking, debit card and credit card.

Name of the Work: **MAS-AJJ Section:- Reconstruction of Bridge 9R at Km. 1/30-34 consisting of 3x48.00m clear span with bow string girder between Chennai Central and Basin bridge station. (TWO PACKET SYSTEM)**

Approximate cash value ₹	Earnest Money Deposit ₹	Cost of tender Form ₹	Period of Completion in month(s)	Closing Date @15.30 hrs.
303224541.14	1666100	10000	THIRTEEN	13.09.2019

For further details, please refer to website portal **www.ireps.gov.in** or contact Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Construction, E.V.R. High Road, Egmore, Chennai- 600 008.

Chief Engineer, Construction, Egmore, Chennai-8.

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E-mail ID:gcet_jammu@rediffmail.com

Govt. College of Engineering & Technology
Chak Bhalwal, Jammu.

No.TEQIP-III/GCET/Pr/19/
Dated: 16.08.2019

NOTICE INVITING QUOTATIONS (NIQ)

The Government of India has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) and a Loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development in various currencies towards the cost of the **Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme [TEQIP]-Phase III. The Govt. College of Engineering and Technology, Jammu**, now invites sealed bids from eligible tenderers for supply of following packages listed below:

S. No.	Package No.	Package Details	Date of issuing NIQ	Last date of Submission of Tenders
1.	TEQIP-III/2019/JK/gcej/213	Microwave Lab. Equipments	13.08.2019	30.08.2019
2.	TEQIP-III/2019/JK/gcej/211	Stabilizers for AC's	13.08.2019	30.08.2019
3.	TEQIP-III/2019/JK/gcej/203	Workshop Material	13.08.2019	30.08.2019

The last date of submission of tenders is 30.08.2019 up to 1600 Hrs. Other details and terms and conditions of the NIQ can be downloaded from the institute website, http://gcetjammu.org.in/TEQIP/tenders.html

Sd/-
Principal
GCET, Jammu

DIP/J-2191

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EVERY FORTNIGHT

IN BRIEF

Tirur Vettila, a product of Kerala, obtains GI tag

THRISSUR

One more product from Kerala has obtained GI (Geographical Indication) tag. *Tirur Vettila* (betel leaf) is the latest entry to the status. Grown in Tirur and nearby areas of Malappuram district, *Tirur Vettila* is unique for its significantly high content of total chlorophyll and protein in fresh leaves. Eugenol is the major essential oil in Tirur betel leaf contributing to its pungency.

Kerala bankers panel to finalise relief measures

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The State-level bankers committee (SLBC) will convene a special session to finalise relief measures, including restructuring of loans, once the Kerala government notification regarding flood-hit villages is issued, SLBC officials have said. "We will follow the same method that we did last year. But the Revenue Department has to first issue the notification listing flood-affected villages before banks can take any step in this direction," SLBC convener G.K. Maya said.

Ganja transported from Vizag to Beed seized

HYDERABAD

Telangana Prohibition and Excise Department officials seized 78 kg of dry ganja, which was allegedly being transported from Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh to Beed, Maharashtra, through Sangareddy district. Based on a tip-off, Task Force team found 78 kg of ganja stuffed in 39 packets being transported in a car and caught three persons Manoj Tharte, Ashok Tharte, Raju Chandrabose.

Sabarimala to get full-fledged base camp

Kerala CM keen to develop facilities at Nilackal ahead of this year's pilgrimage

RADHAKRISHNAN KUTTOOR
PATHANAMTHITTA

A full-fledged base camp for Ayyappa pilgrims is being planned to be set up at Nilackal, about 20 km from the Pamba river on the base of Sabarimala, ahead of this year's pilgrim season.

Talking to *The Hindu*, Travancore Devaswom Board president A. Padmakumar said Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan is keen on developing the facility and would convene a meeting in Thiruvananthapuram on September 5 to discuss the immediate priorities of Nilackal in view of the forthcoming Mandalam-Makaravilakku season. He said the board would provide retiring facility (*viri*) for 20,000 people at Nilackal in addition to the existing facility to accommodate 15,000 people.

More toilet blocks too would be provided at the Nilackal base camp before November 15.

Three sewage treatment plants with a total capacity to treat 10,000 million litres a day would be installed at Nilackal.

Mr. Padmakumar said a survey by the Revenue Department, in association with the Forest Department and the TDB, had put the land allotted to the TDB at Sabarimala as 94.428 acres. However, the Forest Department raised objections claiming that the TDB had only 63 acres there.

The advocate commission appointed by the Kerala High Court, A.S.P. Kurup, had submitted the survey report to the court, he said. Mr. Padmakumar accused the Forest Department of hindering the TDB efforts to execute pilgrim amenity projects at Sabarimala, adding that the TDB was for executing pilgrim amenity schemes in an eco-friendly manner.

The TDB chief said he would take up with the government the police denying permission to pilgrims to take their vehicles to Pampa from Nilackal during the monthly puja period.

He said the High Court had directed the police to permit light motor vehicles to Pampa during the monthly puja period and the government had issued necessary directives.

Mr. Padmakumar said the TDB had initiated steps to recover and protect its property in different parts of the State.

Getting ready: Nilackal can accommodate 35,000 people after it is developed as a full-fledged base camp.

Priest, five nuns charged with defaming Sister Lucy

Kerala police book case on nun's plaint

STAFF REPORTER
KALPETTA

The Vellamunda police have registered a case against a senior priest and five nuns on the charge of defaming Sister Lucy Kalappura, expelled by the Franciscan Clarist Congregation (FCC) early this month .

The police registered the case on Wednesday after Sister Lucy filed a complaint with the district police chief against six persons, including Fr. Noble Parakkal, a member of the Syro-Malabar diocese of Mananthavady, and five nuns of the FCC.

Sister Lucy said in her complaint that the accused had portrayed through social media her interactions with journalists as a salacious affair. The case was registered under Section 509 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman) of the Indian Penal code, M.A. Santhosh, Circle Inspector of Police, Vellamunda, said.

Sister Lucy, who took part in a protest against former Bishop of Jalandhar, Franco Mulakkal, accused of raping a nun, was expelled by the FCC early this month for "failing to give a satisfactory explanation for her lifestyle in violation of the proper law of the FCC."

Sister Lucy Kalappura

Rahul's succour for flood-hit cattle

STAFF REPORTER
MALAPPURAM

Rahul Gandhi, MP, has arranged 10 tonnes of cattle feed for the animals in distress in the flood-affected areas of Nilambur, Eranad and Wandoor.

The truck carrying the cattle feed reached Wandoor on Wednesday.

T.P. Usman, chairman of the Malappuram District Dairy Department Flood Relief Committee and president of the Nirannaparamba Milk Producers Cooperative Society, had written to Mr. Gandhi seeking his intervention to save hundreds of cattle in the flooded areas. He pointed out that the State Dairy Development Department had supplied 1,200 bags of cattle feed, which was insufficient for the animals in Nilambur, Wandoor and Eranad segments.

War of words over Amaravati as A.P. capital

No decision taken, says YSRCP

STAFF REPORTER
VIJAYAWADA

The heat and dust over Municipal Administration Minister Botcha Satyanarayana's remark that the Capital city is likely to be shifted continued on Wednesday with the TDP demanding that Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy clear the air on the issue.

YSRCP MLA and senior party leader Ambati Rambabu said the government had not taken any decision on the issue, but justified the line taken by Mr. Satyanarayana.

Addressing the media at the party office at Tadepalli near here on Wednesday, Mr. Rambabu said the Minister merely said the Sivaramakrishnan Committee did not approve Amaravati, but a section of the media interpreted it differently.

The MLA said the government was only interested in bringing to light the corruption in the Capital and Polavarm projects and once that was done work would continue as usual.

The TDP demanded that the Chief Minister, currently in the U.S., "tweet the government's policy on capital city."

Botcha Satyanarayana

A dalam member of the CPI (Maoist) was killed in an encounter in Bhadradri-Kothagudem district of Telangana.

Maoist killed in Telangana encounter

He was trying to revive activities

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BHADRADRI-KOTHAGUDEM

The Manuguru Area Committee of the CPI (Maoist) suffered a setback with a cadre of its armed squad being killed in an alleged encounter with the police in Budugula forest area of Manuguru mandal in the erstwhile Naxal stronghold of Pinapaka constituency early on Wednesday.

Police sources identified the slain cadre as Jadi Veeraswamy alias Raghu, 25, a dalam member of the CPI (Maoist) armed squad. Raghu had reportedly worked in another Naxal outfit for sometime before joining the banned CPI (Maoist) over a year ago, the sources said.

According to the police, the exchange of fire between the dalam members and a special police team took place in the Budugula forest area while the latter were conducting a predawn search operation based on a reliable input on the movement of the ultras in the forest fringe area in Manuguru mandal.

The police team recovered the body of the dalam member, two weapons, mobile phones and a kit from the site. The police did not allow presspersons to proceed to the alleged encounter site, sources said.

The cops brought the body, clad in a T-shirt, from the forest area to a nearby village in a tractor trolley in the afternoon. The body was shifted to the mortuary at the Government Area Hospital in Bhadrachalam.

When contacted, Sunil Dutt, SP, said the identity of the Maoist was yet to be established. It is suspected to be that of Raghu.

New tactics

The slain dalam member was moving along with other armed rebels of the Manuguru Area Committee in the forest area inhabited by the Gutti Koya tribals to revive and expand Maoist activities in the forest fringe habitations, the SP said.

The rebels have changed their tactics by moving in separate armed squads each comprising five to six dalam members in civil dress to expand their support base in the tribal areas by inciting people living in forest fringe areas over "podu land" issues, he added.

Govt. of Jharkhand
Energy Department| Jharkhand Renewable Energy Development Agency (JREDA)
3rd Floor, S.L.D.C. Building, Kusai Colony, Doranda, Ranchi-834002.
Ph.: 0651-2491161, Fax: 0651-2491165,
E-mail: info@jreda.com; Website: www.jreda.com

e-Procurement Notice
Tender reference no.: 08/JREDA/CONSULTANCY /19-20 Dated: 20.08.2019

1	Name of the work	Engagement of Consultancy Firm for implementation of Rooftop Solar Projects under RESCO Model in Jharkhand.
2	Period of contract	12 (Twelve) Months
3	Date of publication of NIT on website: http:// jharkhandtenders.gov.in	22.08.2019 (Thursday)
4	Date & time of Pre-bid meeting	04.09.2019 (Wednesday) at 1.00 P.M.
5	Last date & time for receipt of online bids	18.09.2019 (Wednesday) upto 05:00 PM
6	Submission of original copies of Bid fee & EMD (Offline)	18.09.2019 and 19.09.2019 up to 5.00 P.M.
7	Technical Bid Opening Date	20.09.2019 (Friday) at 03:00 PM
8	Name & address of office inviting tender	Director, Jharkhand Renewable Energy Development Agency(JREDA) 3rd Floor, SLDC Building, Kusai, Doranda, Ranchi- 834002 (Jharkhand)
9	Contact no. of procurement officer	0651-2491167/68/61
10	Helpline no. of e-procurement	0651-2491167/68/61

Any corrigendum/addendum can be seen on website: http://jharkhand tenders.gov.in & www.jreda.com. Further details can be seen on website: http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in & www.jreda.com

Sd/-
Director,
JREDA, Ranchi

P.R.214858 Energy(19-20):D

जिसे अबतक ना समझे, वो कहानी हूँ मैं, मुझे बर्बाद मत करो पानी हूँ मैं।

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दूरभाष–0651–2551824, E-mail- tri.directorate@gmail.com
पत्रांक–954 राँची, दिनांक– 20.08.2019

शुद्धि पत्र
P.R. No. 213507Welfare (2019-20D)

संस्थान के पत्रांक 865 दिनांक 02.08.2019 के आलोक में ***TOPIC: TAMAR REVOLT /FROM YEAR 1767 to SARDARI MOVEMENT: ARCHIVAL, NON ARCHIVAL AND ORAL SOURCES BASED COMPILATION AND ANALYSIS*** से संबंधी कार्य करने हेतु ''ईच्छा की अभिव्यक्ति'' (निविदा) प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि बढ़ाते हुए 27.08.2019 तथा खोलने की तिथि 29.08.2018 अपराह्न 3.00 बजे किया जाता है। इच्छुक निविदादाता पूर्व निर्धारित शर्त्तों के अनुरूप मुहरबंद निविदा निर्धारित तिथि के अपराह्न 4.00 बजे तक अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय में जमा कर सकते हैं। निविदा से संबंधित विस्तृत जानकारी संस्थान के सूचनापट्ट एवं वेबसाईट www.prdjharkhand.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

ह0/–
निदेशक

PR214827 (Welfare)19-20*D
बूंद – बूंद नहीं बरतेंगे तो बूंद को तरसेंगे

झारखण्ड सरकार,
डा0 रामदयाल मुण्डा जनजातीय कल्याण शोध संस्थान,
अनुसूचित जनजाति, अनुसूचित जाति, अल्पसंख्यक एवं पिछड़ा वर्ग कल्याण विभाग राँची–8
दूरभाष–0651–2551824, E-mail- tri.directorate@gmail.com
पत्रांक– 956 राँची, दिनांक–20.08.2019

शुद्धि पत्र
P.R. No. 213518Welfare (2019-20D)

संस्थान के पत्रांक 867 दिनांक 02.08.2019 के आलोक में ***TOPIC: Study of History of Singhbhum from Ancient to British Period*** से संबंधी कार्य करने हेतु ''ईच्छा की अभिव्यक्ति'' (निविदा) प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि बढ़ाते हुए 27.08.2019 तथा खोलने की तिथि 29.08.2018 अपराह्न 3.00 बजे किया जाता है। इच्छुक निविदादाता पूर्व निर्धारित शर्त्तों के अनुरूप मुहरबंद निविदा निर्धारित तिथि के अपराह्न 4.00 बजे तक अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय में जमा कर सकते हैं। निविदा से संबंधित विस्तृत जानकारी संस्थान के सूचनापट्ट एवं वेबसाईट www.prdjharkhand.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

जिसे अब तक ना समझे, वो कहानी हूँ मैं, मुझे बर्बाद मत करो पानी हूँ मैं।
बूंद – बूंद नहीं बरतेंगे तो बूंद को तरसेंगे

ह0/–
निदेशक।

PR 214829 (Welfare) 19-20 (D)

झारखण्ड सरकार,
डा0 रामदयाल मुण्डा जनजातीय कल्याण शोध संस्थान, अनुसूचित जनजाति, अनुसूचित जाति, अल्पसंख्यक एवं पिछड़ा वर्ग कल्याण विभाग राँची–8
दूरभाष–0651–2551824, E-mail- tri.directorate@gmail.com

पत्रांक– 955 राँची, दिनांक– 20.08.2019

शुद्धि पत्र
P.R. No. 213523Welfare (2019-20D)

संस्थान के पत्रांक 870 दिनांक 02.08.2019 के आलोक में ***TOPIC: A Study on the Tribal History of Rajmahal (Sahebganj District) as a gateway of Bengal and other aspects from the ancient period to the British period*** से संबंधी कार्य करने हेतु ''ईच्छा की अभिव्यक्ति'' (निविदा) प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि बढ़ाते हुए 27.08.2019 तथा खोलने की तिथि 29.08.2018 अपराह्न 3.00 बजे किया जाता है। इच्छुक निविदादाता पूर्व निर्धारित शर्त्तों के अनुरूप मुहरबंद निविदा निर्धारित तिथि के अपराह्न 4.00 बजे तक अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय में जमा कर सकते हैं। निविदा से संबंधित विस्तृत जानकारी संस्थान के सूचनापट्ट एवं वेबसाईट www.prdjharkhand.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

बूंद – बूंद नहीं बरतेंगे तो बूंद को तरसेंगे

ह0/–
निदेशक

PR 214828 (Welfare)19-20#D

तेजस्विनी परियोजना
किशोरियों एवं युवतियों का सामाजिक-आर्थिक सशक्तिकरण

Government of Jharkhand
Department of Women, Child Development and Social Security
JHARKHAND WOMEN DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY
1st Floor, Engineers' Hostel- II, Sector-III, Dhurwa, Ranchi – 834004
REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES –FIRMS SELECTION)

REOI No: JWDS/TEJ/2019-20/01 **Dated: 19th August, 2019**

Hiring of Firm/Agency for Development of psychometric assessment tools and support its implementation for the selection of Adolescent Girls & Young Women (AGYW) for institutional services under Tejaswini Project in Jharkhand.

1. JWDS seeks to hire a Firm/Agency for Development of psychometric assessment tools and support its implementation for the selection of Adolescent Girls & Young Women (AGYW) for institutional services under Tejaswini Project in Jharkhand.
2. Quality-Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the Consultant Guidelines would be followed to select the Firm/ Agency to develop assessment tools.
3. The draft Terms of Reference (ToR) and detailed Request for Expression of Interest (REoI) for the assignment is available at website: www.socialwelfarejhar.gov.in in tender section.
4. A pre-consultation meeting shall be held on **26th August, 2019 at 1100 hrs (IST)** in the Office of Jharkhand Women Development Society, 1st Floor Engineers' Hostel-II, Sector – III, Dhurwa, Ranchi – 834004, Jharkhand.
5. The Expression of Interest (EoI), complete in all respect, must be submitted in hard copy at the address specified in REoI through Registered Post/Speed Post/Courier/by Hand only by **1600 hrs (IST) on 20th September, 2019.**
6. Any EoI Proposal received by JWDS after designated time and date shall not be considered at all.

P.R. 214748 Social Welfare,Women and Child Development(19-20)-D

बूंद – बूंद नहीं बरतेंगे तो बूंद को तरसेंगे

Sd/-
Project Director, JWDS
-cum-Chief Operating Officer, Tejaswini Project

Office of the Executive Engineer
Road Construction Department Road Division, Garhwa
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (Short-e-Procurement Notice)

Retender (PR-No.-208314 Road (19-20)__D
e Tender Reference No. **RCD/Garhwa/727/19-20 (2nd Call)** Dated : **20.08.2019**

1. The Executive Engineer, Road Construction Department, Road Division, Garhwa invites item rate bids online for the work detailed in the table given below. The bidder is advised to read & examine carefully all instructions including addendum/amendments to ITB, conditions of contract, contract data, forms, terms, technical specifications, bill of quantities etc. in the Bid Document before bidding.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Value of work (Rs. in lakh)	Bid Security (Rs. in lakh)	Cost of Document (in Rs.)	Period of completion
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Reconstruction of Nagaruntari- Dhurki-Ambakhoriya Road (MDR-139) Total Length 24.940 km. under Central Road Fund for the year 2019-20	10571.13	105.72	Rs. 10000.00	19 (Ninteen) months including rainy season.

Note :- The Bid Amount & Bid security may be decrease or increase.
2. Website e-tendering portal of MORTH may be referred for detailed terms and conditions of the Invitation for Bids (IFB) and Bidding Documents (including e-Tendering instruction to applicants), which is available online.
3. Tender will be available online on MORTH portal and e-tendering portal of MORTH from **22.08.2019** to **04.09.2019** upto **18.00 Hours**. Bids must be submitted online only at e-tendering portal of MORTH on or before **18:00 Hours** on **04.09.2019** and technical bids received online will be opened on **06.09.2019** at **12.30 Hours**.
4. The prospective bidders who do not posses Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) may get the same issued from approved agencies.

PR 214867 (Road)19-20#D
बूंद – बूंद नहीं बरतेंगे तो बूंद को तरसेंगे

Executive Engineer
R.C.D., Road Division, Garhwa

GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND
RURAL DEVELOPMENT SPECIAL DIVISION PALAMAU.
Short Tender Notice
Request for proposal (e- procurement) Notice
Ref No-EE/RDSD/PALAMAU-03/2019-20

Sl. No.	Particular	Details
1.	Name of work	Construction of bridge across Batane River Near Thana in Hariharganj Block, District-Palamau. (Length – 156.56M)
2.	Estimated Cost	Rs. 540.535Lac
3.	Work Completion Period for construction	24 Month
4.	Tender Fee and EMD	Tender Fee Rs. 10,000.00 EMD Rs. 10,82,000.00
5.	Date of Publication of Tender on Website	21.08.2019 at 11.00 am
6.	Date of Pre-Bid Meeting	22.08.2019 at 3.00 pm
7.	Date/time of Receipt of Bid	23.08.2019 at 11.00 am To 04.09.08.2019 up to 5.00 pm
8.	Date of submission of EMD, Tender fee.	05.09.2019 up to 3.00 pm
9.	Technical Bid Opening date	06.09.2019 at 2.00 pm
10.	Name and Address of officer inviting Tender.	Executive Engineer Rural Div.Spe.Div.Palamau.
11.	Contact No. of Procurement officer	9801023747
12.	Help Line No. of e-procurement-cell	0651-2401148 0651-2401750

Note :- Only e- Tenders Will be accepted Further details can be seen on website "http://Jharkhandtenders.gov.in"

Executive Engineer
Rural Development Special Division
Palamau.

बूंद - बूंद नहीं बरतेंगे तो बूंद को तरसेंगे

P.R.214750 Rural Development(19-20):D

Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority (Nyaya Sadan), Near A.G. Office, Doranda, Ranchi- 834002, Phone: 0651-2481520 (O), 2482392, Fax: 2482397, E-mail – jhalsaranchi@gmail.com

No. 2268 dated 20-8-19
Notice regarding vacancy of Chairman in Permanent Lok Adalat

Application in the prescribed format is invited from Retired/Retiring (not later than Sept 2019) Principal District Judges/ District Judges for filling up the post of Chairman PLA, Ranchi, Bokaro, Chatra and Simdega (Jharkhand). Serving Principal District Judges and District Judges, who are going to retire by the month of Sept 2019, if willing, must apply through proper channel . The applicant must have clean service record.

The aspiring candidates may have to appear for an interview before Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority, Doranda, Ranchi as per scheduled date, time and place fixed by JHALSA. One recent passport size photograph affixed in application, two self addressed stamped envelope (Rs.42/- each) must be attached with the application.

Entitlement: Monthly fee of last drawn salary less the amount of pension received. Rs.5000/- conveyance allowance per month.

Period of appointment: The candidate shall hold office for a term of 5 years or till the age of sixty-five years, whichever is earlier.Photograph**Last Date of application**: Application addressed to **Member Secretary, Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority (Nyaya Sadan), Near AG Office, Doranda, Ranchi-834002** must reach by Speed Post/ Courier/Registered Post latest by **21-9-19 by 5 PM**.

FORMAT

Name of Applicant	
Fathers Name	
Date of Birth	
Address with PIN code	
Contact No. and Email address	
Date of Entry in Judicial Service	
Date of Retirement from Judicial Service and post hold	
Place of retirement	
Any other experience or training like mediation and others	
Any Adverse remarks or departmental proceeding faced during the service period or not.	

Photograph

DECLARATION

I _____ hereby declare that all the contents mentioned above are true and nothing has been concealed by me. I further undertake that I shall serve in the Permanent Lok Adalat of any of the district (Ranchi/ Bokaro/ Chatra/ Simdega), allotted to me, upon selection. If any statement is found incorrect or misleading, my candidature may be cancelled.

Date and Place

Signature of applicant and Mobile No.

Sd/- Member Secretary,
Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority, Ranchi

P.R.214813 Law(19-20):D
बूंद - बूंद नहीं बरतेंगे तो बूंद को तरसेंगे

Office of the Executive Engineer
Road Construction Department
Road Division, Garhwa

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING
(Short-e-Procurement Notice) **Retender (PR-No.-208311 Road (19-20)__D**
e Tender Reference No. **RCD/Garhwa/726/19-20 (2nd Call)** Dated : **20.08.2019**

1. The Executive Engineer, Road Construction Department, Road Division, Garhwa invites item rate bids online for the work detailed in the table given below. The bidder is advised to read & examine carefully all instructions including addendum/amendments to ITB, conditions of contract, contract data, forms, terms, technical specifications, bill of quantities etc. in the Bid Document before bidding.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Value of work (Rs. in lakh)	Bid Security (Rs. in lakh)	Cost of Document (in Rs.)	Period of completion
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Reconstruction of Meral-Bana-Ambakhoriya Road (MDR-140) Total Length 36.629 km. under Central Road Fund for the year 2019-20	13357.98	133.58	Rs. 10000.00	24 (Twenty Four) months including rainy season.

Note :- The Bid Amount & Bid security may be decrease or increase.
2. Website e-tendering portal of MORTH may be referred for detailed terms and conditions of the Invitation for Bids (IFB) and Bidding Documents (including e-Tendering instruction to applicants), which is available online.
3. Tender will be available online on MORTH portal and e-tendering portal of MORTH from **22.08.2019** to **04.09.2019** upto **18.00 Hours**. Bids must be submitted online only at e-tendering portal of MORTH on or before **18:00 Hours** on **04.09.2019** and technical bids received online will be opened on **06.09.2019** at **12.30 Hours**.
4. The prospective bidders who do not posses Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) may get the same issued from approved agencies.

PR 214866 (Road)19-20*D
बूंद – बूंद नहीं बरतेंगे तो बूंद को तरसेंगे

Executive Engineer
R.C.D., Road Division, Garhwa

A ND-NDE

IN BRIEF

Chandrayaan-2's lunar orbit made shorter

BENGALURU

Chandrayaan-2, a day old in its orbit around the moon, has started undergoing phased manoeuvres to shorten the elliptical orbit in preparation for the September 7 landing. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Wednesday said it compressed the current elliptical orbit to 4,412 km at the far end from the moon. The orbit exercise was performed for about 20 minutes, by firing the on board motors. At the other end, the spacecraft is 118 km away from the lunar surface.

Unnao case: constable challenges charges

NEW DELHI

A constable from Uttar Pradesh on Wednesday approached the Delhi High Court challenging the framing of charges against him for the alleged murder of the Unnao rape survivor's father and framing him in a case for the possession of illegal arms. Constable Amir Khan claimed that the trial court had "wrongly" clubbed the two cases, as one was to be tried by a sessions court while the other was to be tried by a magistrate's court. On August 13, a trial court here had charged MLA Kuldeep Sengar and nine others for several offences under sections of the IPC and the Arms Act.

Man dies in elephant herd attack

LATEHAR (JHARKHAND)

A 36-year-old man died after he was attacked by a herd of elephants in Latehar, police said on Wednesday. Bandhan Ganju suffered serious injuries when he tried to chase the herd at Bakru village on Tuesday night, Balumath police station in-charge Subhas Paswan said. The villager was taken to a health centre, from where he was referred to Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences in Ranchi, 120 km from here. He died on way to the hospital, Mr. Paswan said. Forest Ranger P.P. Sahu said that ₹25,000 have been given to the family of the deceased. PTI

Three killed as rescue chopper crashes in rain-hit Uttarakhand

Private helicopter was returning after distributing relief material in Uttarkashi

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
DEHRADUN

A helicopter engaged in relief and rescue operations in the rain-ravaged Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand crashed on Wednesday killing three persons on board, including two crew members.

A private helicopter with three persons on board crashed near Moldi in the rain-hit Uttarkashi district after getting entangled in cables, Uttarakhand's Director General of Police (Law and Order) Ashok Kumar said. The pilot, co-pilot and a local were killed in the crash, he said.

Those killed have been identified as the pilot, Captain Lal, co-pilot Captain Shailesh and Rajpal Rana, a resident of Kharsali village.

Picking up the pieces: Officials and local residents near the wreckage of a private helicopter, which crashed while carrying relief material in Uttarkashi on Wednesday. PTI

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has deputed a team of officials to conduct a preliminary inquiry into the crash, according to a senior official. The Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau is likely to probe the accident, a DGCA official said.

Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat in a tweet expressed grief at the deaths in the crash and announced an ex-gratia of ₹15 lakh each to the next of their kin.

The crash occurred when the helicopter belonging to Heritage Aviation was returning after distributing relief materials. Torrential rains in Mori area of the district caused large-scale damage to a number of houses early on Sunday, killing 16 persons and leaving around half a dozen missing.

The Manali-Leh highway, which was for over four hours blocked due to fresh landslides in the Kullu district, was reopened on Wednesday evening, police said.

Ex-IPS officer seeks protection after Bihar MLA goes missing

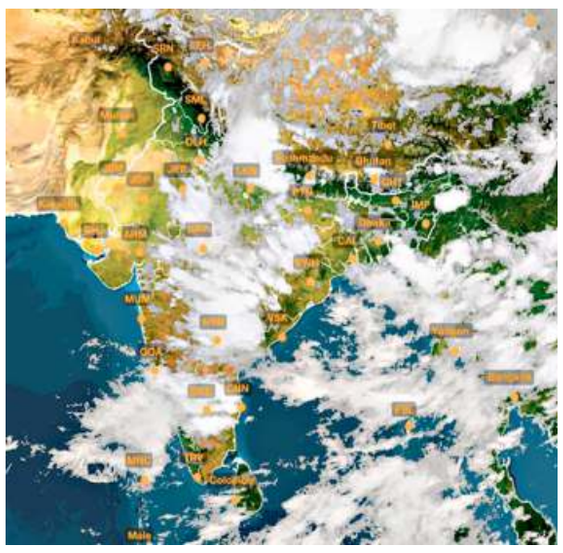
AMARNATH TEWARY
PATNA

Former IPS officer from Bihar Amitabh Kumar Das has sought police protection citing threat to his life from missing Independent MLA Anant Singh. The Mokama legislator has been absconding since August 16 when an AK-47 rifle, 26 cartridges and two bombs were recovered from his ancestral home in Ladma village, Madhepura district.

"In March 2009, I had given information regarding possession of sophisticated weapons at Anant Singh's ancestral home. Now after 10 years, my information has been found correct. I have received information that a conspiracy is being hatched for my murder," Mr. Das wrote to the Bihar DGP.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Thursday: Heavy to very heavy rain likely at isolated places over Odisha, Kerala, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tamil Nadu, Karaikal, coastal and south interior Karnataka, Lakshadweep and Telangana

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	–	35.7	27.2	Kozhikode	16.0	30.7	24.4
Ahmedabad	–	32.7	25.8	Kurnool	27.1	31.5	23.3
Aizawl	3.0	29.9	22.3	Lucknow	65.6	27.3	24.7
Allahabad	36.7	–	25.3	Madurai	2.4	36.6	24.6
Bengaluru	16.7	26.4	20.8	Mangaluru	25.2	29.9	23.5
Bhopal	–	31.7	23.2	Mumbai	5.9	32.1	26.2
Bhubaneswar	0.4	33.7	27.2	Mysuru	18.0	28.9	20.2
Chandigarh	–	34.0	24.8	New Delhi	–	36.1	24.8
Chennai	7.5	33.2	24.5	Patna	–	34.6	28.2
Coimbatore	0.8	31.5	23.2	Port Blair	11.6	30.5	23.9
Dehradun	–	32.8	23.8	Puducherry	16.4	33.6	24.0
Gangtok	0.6	24.0	18.7	Pune	–	28.5	21.4
Goa	3.0	31.0	24.9	Raipur	2.8	31.8	24.2
Guwahati	1.2	37.0	25.9	Ranchi	–	32.0	24.0
Hubballi	–	28.0	21.0	Shillong	20.0	25.0	16.4
Hyderabad	–	32.6	25.0	Shimla	–	24.9	15.1
Imphal	–	31.1	23.1	Srinagar	–	27.8	13.0
Jaipur	–	34.6	26.2	Thiruvananthapuram	0.1	31.0	24.7
Kochi	19.8	28.6	24.0	Tiruchi	2.0	36.0	25.4
Kohima	–	28.0	18.2	Vijayawada	3.8	35.1	26.2
Kolkata	0.7	35.1	27.6	Visakhapatnam	–	34.0	27.6

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing — **Yesterday**

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	49	.58	.49	58	.130	
Bengaluru	02	.42	110	42	73	
Chennai	08	.39	200	57	39	
Delhi	19	.25	.47	86	.180	
Hyderabad	59	.52	.17	96	.124	
Kolkata	05	.31	.08	75	86	
Lucknow	04	.45	.50	80	–	
Mumbai	13	.18	.09	26	.110	
Pune	74	.08	.67	56	56	
Visakhapatnam	13	.13	.32	68	.102	

In observation made at 6.00 p.m., Bhiwadi, Rajasthan recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 226 indicating a dangerous level of pollution. In contrast, Bathinda, Punjab recorded a healthy AQI score of 30

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Dairy co-ops asked to halve plastic use

Use of 500 ml packs to be discouraged

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Centre has asked all milk cooperatives and private dairies to halve plastic usage by October 2, by subsidising one litre packs to discourage the use of 500 ml packs and by offering a rebate to customers who return the plastic pouches which can then be recycled. However, the country's biggest milk coop – which generates about 2.8 crore plastic packets per day – says such buyback schemes are not viable.

In his Independence Day speech, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had called for an end to single use plastics. The milk industry is one of the largest users of single use plastics, with the growing use of disposable pouches replacing milk vendors and vending machines in many areas.

Under the Extended Producer Responsibility component of the Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules, revised in 2018, industries are already required to recover and recycle part of the plastic packaging they generate.

Plan of action

At a meeting with major dairy stakeholders on Wednesday, the Animal Husbandry and Dairying Secretary Atul Chaturvedi requested the cooperatives which own the Amul and Mother Dairy brands to create a protocol and action plan to recycle milk pouches. "Reduce consumption of plastics by subsidising price of 1 litre pack, rebate customers for bringing back plastics, [and] reuse pouches," said an official statement.

Govt. launches programme to train teachers

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

More than 42 lakh teachers and principals of primary and elementary-age government schools across the country will undergo a five-day training programme over the next few months to learn innovative teaching methods, the use of art and technology in the classroom and basic counselling techniques.

On Wednesday, the Human Resource Development Ministry kicked off the National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement (NISHTHA), calling it "the world's largest teacher-training programme".

"We need to support our teachers so they can encourage critical thinking among students rather than rote learning," said School Education Secretary Rina Ray at the inauguration of NISHTHA.

Madhya Pradesh ex-CM Gaur dead

He represented Govindpura 10 times

STAFF REPORTER
BHOPAL

Former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister and BJP leader Babulal Gaur, who represented Govindpura Assembly seat 10 times, passed away on Wednesday morning after a prolonged illness. He was 89.

Mr. Gaur died at a private hospital here.

He had been undergoing treatment for respiratory problems for the past two weeks.

Condoling his death, Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted: "Shri Babulal Gaur*ji* served people for decades. From Jana Sangh days, he worked constantly to strengthen our Party. As Minister and CM of Madhya Pradesh he undertook many efforts to transform the State. Saddened by his demise. Condolences to his family and supporters. Om Shanti."

Babulal Gaur

Mr. Gaur, born on June 2, 1930 in the Pratapgarh district of Uttar Pradesh, was Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister from August 23, 2004 to November 29, 2005.

His association with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh began in 1946 and was a founder-member of the Rashtriya Mazdoor Sangh.

Child's cry leads to triple talaq

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
INDORE

Days after Parliament passed the law penalising triple talaq, a Muslim man here allegedly divorced his wife on the spot, over his one-year-old daughter disturbing his sleep. A complaint has been lodged.

'Children from shelter homes not finding work'

Almost 70% unaware of after-care entitlements under the law: study

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Nearly 40% of children who leave shelter homes after turning 18 are unable to complete schooling, 50% are unable to find paid work and almost 70% are unaware of their after-care entitlements under the law, finds a study conducted by an NGO across five States.

The study, released on Wednesday, is based on the testimonies of 435 "care leavers" and 100 other key stakeholders such as functionaries working on the ground for child protection. The age of the care leavers was between 17 years and 30 years.

While 48% of these young adults were from government-run institutions, 52% were from NGO-run institutions. Out of the total care leavers, 55% were male and the rest were female.

The study was conducted in Delhi, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Rajasthan by the NGO Udayan Care and was supported by the TATA Trusts and UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund).

'Never consulted'

The survey highlights the poor implementation of after-care provisions prescribed under the Juvenile Justice Act (JJ Act), 2015, for those who leave child care institutions on turning 18. The study found that 27% of children did not receive any form of after care support such as housing, medical facilities, legal awareness, or emotional support after they left their shelter home.

As many as 78% of them did not have health insurance, 67% were not aware of these services and other schemes designed for them, 44% of them had never been consulted over their care and rehabilitation planning during their stay at a home, as is required under JJ Act.

As far as education, vocational skills and the financial independence of these young adults was concerned, nearly 40% could not complete their schooling even after 18 years, and 34% dropped out during transitioning from a home to independent living.

As many as 48% did not have an independent source of earning, and those who earned had an average monthly salary of between ₹7,500 and ₹8,500.

Need for family

Foroogh Foyouzat, Deputy Representative, UNICEF India, emphasised the importance of shifting away from institutionalisation of children.

"Every child has the right to grow up in a family environment. Placing children in an institution is the last resort. Unfortunately, the trend is the opposite. Globally, evidence shows negative consequences of institutionalisation," said Ms. Foyouzat.

She added that when children can't be reunited with their families, they must be placed in alternate family-like environments such as through sponsorship or foster-care.

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS : TIRUPATI
VIGILANCE & SECURITY DEPARTMENT e-TENDER NOTICE

e-tenders were invited to Entrustment of Security Services under Work Contract by Inviting Tenders through online (e-Tender) to the following Temples.

1) File Roc.No.C1/2077/V&SO/TTD/TPT/2019: Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple, TTD Information Centre, Chennai, VVR Dharmasala, Royapettah, TTD Information Centers, Kanchi, Vellore & Madurai. **Last Date and Time for Receipt of the Bids: 30-08-2019.**

2) File Roc.NO.C1/15822/V&SO/TTD/TPT/2017: Total Security Services at TTD Educational Institutions i.e. Pre Schools From 1st Class To 12th / Intermediate Educational Institutions **Last Date and Time for Receipt of the Bids: 07-09-2019.**

Tender documents can be downloaded from the website: **https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in.** For further details contact phone numbers: **0877-2264079, 2264555, FAX - 2264554** - and mail ID: **cvsoofficettd@gmail.com**

List of attested documents to be uploaded at the time of tender: (1) EMD in the form of Demand Draft. **(2)** Documents as mentioned in Pre-qualification criteria. **(3)** Registration of the firm **(4)** GST registration. **(5)** PAN card / Income Tax document.

Place : **Signature of the Tenderer**
Date : **(to be signed by an authorized sign)**

Roc.No.PR4/Adv.No.13909/Adv.216/PRO/19, Dated:21-08-2019 **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (CONSULTING SERVICES)
HIMACHAL PRADESH
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
(INDIA)

Assignment Title: Consultancy Service for in–depth study of HP Public Works Department (HPPWD) and HP Department of Transport (HPDoT) to reorganize and reestablish HP Road and other Infrastructure Development Corporation (HPRIDC), Direct Labor Operation Wing of HPPWD and HP Motor Vehicle Administration (HPMVA) and strengthening the Directorate of Transportation.

For implementation of the intended Consultancy Services, the H.P. Road and other Infrastructure Development Corporation (HPRIDC) invites proposals from the consultancy firms empanelled/registered with Construction Industry Development Council (CIDC)/NHAI and having successfully completed similar re-organizational studies/ services under the World Bank/externally aided projects implemented by various civil infrastructure development agencies in India/abroad, as per the terms and conditions of the RFP that would be available on the following website w.e.f. 26.08.2019 onwards. http://himachalservices.nic.in/hpridc/

A consultancy firm that will secure minimum 70 marks in Technical Evaluation will be selected on the Least Cost Basis of financial proposal.

All future corrigendums/ addendums will also be made available on the departmental website on the above link.

Full Technical Proposals must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by post) by September 16, 2019 at 1500 hours (IST). Proposals received online/through e-mail will not be entertained.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-cum-Project Director
State Road Project,HPRIDC
Nirman Bhawan, Nigam Vihar, Shimla-171002(H.P)
Tel:+91-177-2627602
Fax: +91-177-2620663
E-mail: pdsrp-hp@nic.in

HP/0279/2019-2020

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL,
MEDICAL EDUCATION & TRAINING, UTTAR PRADESH
6th FLOOR, JAWAHAR BHAWAN, LUCKNOW.

No. ME-3/2019/2614 Lucknow: Dated: 21.08.2019

Revised Schedule for the Mop-UP Round of UP NEET UG-2019

Revised Schedule for the Admission through Mop-Up Round in the State of Uttar Pradesh for Private Medical/Dental Colleges/ Institutions/ Universities for Graduate (MBBS / BDS) is as follows:-

EVENT	PREVIOUS SCHEDULE	REVISED SCHEDULE
Date of Allotment in Private Medical Colleges	26th August, 2019 (From 11:00 AM)	28th August, 2019 (From 11:00 AM)
Date of Allotment in Private Dental Colleges	27th/28th August, 2019 (From 10:00 AM)	29th/30th August, 2019 (From 10:00 AM)
Date of Admission	On Spot Admission	On Spot Admission

- All term and conditions are same advertised dated on **16 August, 2019**
- For further important and detailed information kindly visit the website - **https://upneet.gov.in & www.updgme.in**

DIRECTOR GENERAL

KARNATAKA URBAN WATER SUPPLY & DRAINAGE BOARD
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER KALABURAGI
Opp. Mini Soudha, Aiwan-e-Shahi Road, Kalaburgi-585 102.
Tel: 08472-220817, Fax: 08472-260818. E-mail: kwbceklb14@gmail.com

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement portal only)

Item-rate Tenders are invited for the following work through e-Procurement portal from eligible Agency/Contractor as detailed below

Package No. KWB/CE(K)/TEC/AE-1/Bhalki_WSS/671/2019-20 Date: 21-08-2019. Work indent in e-procurement portal: **KUWSDB/2019-20/PM/WORK_INDENT 2499**

Name & Description of Work: Supply, Installation and Commissioning of 20 MLD Self Cleaning Microfiber Water Filtration Plant and Operation and Maintenance of entire Water Treatment Plant including Microfiber Filter for 3 Years under Water Supply Scheme to Bhalki Town and 23 enroute Villages.

Approx. value of work: **Rs. 753.18 Lakhs.** (Excluding GST). EMD: **Rs. 11,30,000/-.** Tender processing fee: **As per e-procurement portal.** Period of completion (including monsoon): **06 (Six) months.**

Calendar of Events

1	Date & Time for Commencement of downloading of tender documents	**22.08.2019 after 11.00 Hrs.**
2	Last Date & Time for receipt of queries	**05.09.2019 upto 11.00 Hrs.**
3	Date & Time for Pre-Bid Meeting	**05.09.2019 at 11.30 Hrs.**
4	Last Date & Time for submission/ uploading of the tender in e-procurement portal	**20.09.2019 upto 17.30 Hrs.**
5	Date & time of opening of the Technical tenders	**23.09.2019 after 11.00 Hrs.**
6	Date & time of opening of the Financial tenders	**24.09.2019 after 11.00 Hrs.**

Tenderers should quote the rates excluding GST. Prevailing GST will be paid separately at the time of payment.

For further details, the Office of the Chief Engineer, KUWS&D Board, Kalaburagi, may please be contacted or website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or e-Procurement helpdesk: 080-25501216/ 25501227. e-mail support: **hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com.**

Sd/- CHIEF ENGINEER
KUWS & D BOARD, Kalaburagi Zone, Kalaburagi.

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Shri. B.R. KAMDAR

KAMDAR FAMILY WITH STAFF & MANAGEMENT OF

NADI AIRTECHNICS PVT. LTD.
NADI TECHNOLOGIES PVT. LTD.

INDIAN RAILWAYS

Proforma 10-01

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

Notice is hereby given to all users of Railway lines and premises situated on the completed section of the under noted sections of Southern Railway that the 25000 Volts, 50 Kz, ac overhead traction wires will be energised on or after the date specified against the section. On and from the same date the overhead traction lines shall be treated as "LIVE" at all times and no unauthorised person shall approach or work in the proximity of the said overhead lines.

S.No.	Section	Date
1	**Newly erected Overhead equipment on the new alignment of Road no. 5 and Road no. 6 at Mettur Dam from Km/loc. 35/42 (Km/ch.35/810.00) to Km/loc. MTPP/67 (Km/Ch. 01/314.80)**	**06.09.2019**

Proforma 10-02

INTRODUCTION OF AC 25 kV TRACTION
"WARNING TO ROAD USERS"

It is notified for information of the public that in connection with introduction of 25 kV ac electric traction over the section of new alignment of Road no. 5 and Road no. 6 at Mettur Dam from Km/loc. 35/42 (Km/Ch.35/810.00) to Km/loc. MTPP/67 (Km/Ch. 01/314.80) in SA-MTDM section in Salem Division of Southern Railway, the height gauges have been erected at all the level crossings with clear height of 4.67m above road level with a view to prevent Loads of excessive height from coming into contact or dangerous proximity to live traction wires.

Public are hereby notified to observe the height specified above for the purpose of loading vehicles and to see that the loads carried in road vehicles do not infringe the height gauges under any circumstances.

The dangers of a Load of Excessive Height are as follows.

i. Danger to the height gauge and consequent obstruction to the road as well as the Railway line.
ii. Danger to the materials or equipment carried or for the Vehicle itself.
iii. Danger of fire and risk of life due to contact with or dangerous proximity to the Over head electrical conductors.

File No. E.320/X/1/CRS vol. XII
Date : 20.08.2019
Place : Chennai Egmore

Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer / OHE,
Southern Railway, Chennai Egmore - 600 008.

Content management

Courts must let government work out a balanced regulatory regime for online content

The submissions in the Supreme Court on behalf of the Tamil Nadu government in support of linking social media profiles of registered users with their Aadhaar numbers are not well-founded in the law as it now stands. It is noteworthy that a Division Bench of the Madras High Court, which is hearing two writ petitions on this matter, did not see merit in the idea. The Bench had during the hearings observed that following the Supreme Court's decision in the Aadhaar case, the unique 12-digit-number can be used only for subsidies and welfare benefits; and pointed out that Section 57 of the Aadhaar Act has been struck down to the extent that it authorised body corporate and individuals to use the number to establish someone's identity. The petitioners had approached the High Court with such a prayer on the ground that many people got away with inflammatory posts on social media because of the lack of traceability. However, the Bench has since then expanded the writ petitions' scope to examine the adequacy of the legal framework on cybercrimes and the responsibilities of intermediaries who provide telecommunication and online services. The State government is batting for better assistance from intermediaries and social media companies to trace offending messages. As two other High Courts are also hearing similar matters, Facebook, WhatsApp and Twitter have sought a transfer of all these cases to the apex court so that there are no conflicting judgments.

While the Supreme Court will decide the question of transferring these cases to itself, the Madras High Court will continue its hearing. A word of caution. The Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology notified new draft rules for intermediaries last year and called for public comments. The proposed rules envisage new obligations for service providers. One of the changes proposed is that intermediaries should help identify originators of offensive content. This has created some understandable misgivings at a time when there is widespread suspicion about online surveillance. Technology companies that use end-to-end encryption have pleaded inability to open a back door for identifying originators. The issue concerns the global policy of these companies as well as the wider public interest of millions of registered users. After the *K.S. Puttaswamy* decision (2017) in the 'privacy' case, any state intervention in the regulation of online content has to pass the test of proportionality laid down by the court. It will be desirable if courts do not impart needless urgency to the process of introducing a balanced regulatory regime to curb content that promotes undesirable activities such as child pornography, sectarian conflict and mob violence, without affecting individual privacy. The balance must be right between protecting privacy and allowing the state leeway to curb crime.

Crisis in Rome

Italy's political centre is crumbling as the far-right steps into an ideological vacuum

The resignation speech of Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte, with his estranged Interior Minister Matteo Salvini beside him, was an acknowledgement of all that could go wrong with an opportunistic alliance between a far-right nativist party and a professed ideology-less anti-establishment group. When the 5-Star Movement led by comedian Beppe Grillo and Mr. Salvini's League joined hands after last year's elections in which no party got majority, the plan was to keep establishment parties away and offer a populist alternative. But for Mr. Conte, the technocrat Prime Minister who is not a member of any party, governance was not easy with contradictions within the coalition often coming to the fore. While the 5-Star Movement lacked any ideological alternative to offer other than its anger towards Italy's centre-left and conservative establishment parties, Mr. Salvini pushed for his party's "Italy-first", anti-immigrant, anti-EU agenda. As Interior Minister, he banned migrant ships. He also challenged the EU fiscal orthodoxy by calling for tax cuts and spending rises, which appealed to the electorate still reeling under the effects of the debt crisis. The League party, a junior member in the coalition, came first in Italy in the election to the EU Parliament with 34% vote.

The current crisis was triggered by Mr. Salvini's decision to withdraw from the coalition. With opinion polls suggesting that the League could get up to 38% of the popular vote if polls are held soon, Mr. Salvini is on course to become Prime Minister. But may be not immediately. The 5-Star Movement has indicated that it is open for talks with the centrist Democratic Party. If they stitch up an alliance, the League will be out of power for at least three years. But the problem is that even if another coalition is formed, it would not be the answer to the country's problems. An alliance between the 5-Star Movement and the Democrats would be another odd marriage, like the populist coalition that collapsed just now. It would also allow Mr. Salvini to pursue his hard-line nationalist politics freely from the opposition, preparing himself for the next election. In fact Mr. Salvini's rise, from a regional leader in northern Italy to a popular nationalist political figure now, is also the story of Italy's political and economic crisis. When establishment parties shy away from addressing structural economic issues, the crisis opens avenues for anti-establishment forces. Italy's political centre is crumbling. The Left is weak. The 5-Star Movement doesn't have an ideological programme. Mr. Salvini, whose hard nationalist views echo the far-right politics on the ascent in Europe, seems determined to exploit the Italian crisis.

State-breaking is not nation making

In the J&K demotion, every code, principle and constitutional sanction protecting federalism has been violated

NEERA CHANDHOKE

In India most linguistic and ethnic groups aspire for a State of their own. Militants have taken up arms against the government and against other groups to achieve this particular objective. It is, therefore, astonishing that the abrogation of Article 370 guaranteed by the Constitution, and the downgrading of the State of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), are being hailed and celebrated. It is surprising that the Telangana Government which secured its State through popular mobilisation, voted for a Bill that dismembered J&K. It is shocking that the Chief Minister of Delhi, Arvind Kejriwal, who battles for statehood, also voted in favour of the Bill, as did the regional party in Odisha, the Biju Janata Dal.

Regional parties should be wary of a Central government that tampers with their State. The Government has now the power to demote any State for whatever reason. An unfortunate precedent has been set. Every code, every principle, every constitutional sanction protecting federalism has been violated by the Central government that relentlessly implements a myopic agenda. In the process no one asks, why not Article 370 that grants regional autonomy? For regional autonomy is indispensable for India's plural and complex society.

Issue of co-existence

This lesson was hammered into political consciousness by events that followed the collapse of the Berlin Wall in 1989. Countries melted away and a number of new States emerged out of the debris of old ones often through processes of civil war, ethnic cleansing and genocide. As the world saw a rush of State-breaking and State-making, a new lease of life was infused into dormant separatist movements. Some examples were the Nagas and the Bodos in India, the Chechens in Russia, separatist movements in Azerbaijan (Nagorno-Karabakh) and Moldova (Trans-Dniester), Baluchistan in Pakistan, West Papua in Indonesia, the Oromos and the Somalis in the Ethiopia-Somali region, the Kurds in Turkey, Sudan, the Tamils in Sri Lanka, South Ossetia and Abkhazia in Georgia, and the rise of protest politics in the Kashmir Valley. Regional elites in Canada, the United Kingdom and Europe, such as Quebec, Scotland, Catalonia, the Basque country and Corsica continue to demand independence, off and on. The spate of ethnic cleansing and genocide has prompted scholars to raise the question: how can we ensure that people who speak different languages, worship different gods, and follow different belief systems coexist in a plural society?

Kernel of identity

On balance, scholars agreed that federalism is the best answer to the question of co-existence. Federalism has since long been offered as an antidote to the centralisation of power, which results in a democratic deficit in large and multicultural societies. Decentralisation and regional autonomy ensure responsive governance, fiscal prudence and efficiency as well as popular participation. But in the 1990s, scholars realised that individuals do not only seek economic benefits. Individuals need to have an identity; they need community whether that of language, or religion, or memory, or shared traditions.

REUTERS

Certainly, some people identify strongly with their community, others identify weakly, and still others move on and adopt the meaning systems of another community. But most of the time, most of us, are intimately attached to the community of birth. For it is from here that we learn the first alphabet of a language that teaches us how to live with people who are like us, and people who are not like us. The alphabet of this language simply allows us to make sense of ourselves, our worlds, and of our relationships with others. If community is so crucial to the fact of being human, individuals should be assured secure access to their community.

Neither the state nor society should harm my community. By harming my community through perverse imaging and acts of violence, you harm me, you harm a citizen of India. Human beings without community are lesser human beings, homeless, wanderers searching for belonging on a road that has no signboards. That is why the loss of community breeds trauma; it leads to struggle, it can even result in civil war. Across the world we see two kinds of struggle, the struggle for material resources, and the struggle for identity. The latter has led to some of the most bitter conflicts in human history.

The one institution that threatens community is the nation state. This is considered one of the major mistakes of history. Nations do not emerge as fully-fashioned entities; they are created by states through flattening out of diverse languages, religions, cultures, through conscription, through education, and through coercion. Attempts by States in the post-colonial world to forge nations out of diverse populations have resulted in tremendous harm. In Sri Lanka, the official estimate was that under 7,000 people were killed, and 72,000 civilians were displaced from their homes by the Sri Lankan Army, as well as by the secessionist group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, in the last phase of the civil war, between January 2009 and May 2009 alone. But this ran counter to data by experts at the United Nations which estimated that as many as 40,000 civilians, if not more, lost their lives.

Thousands of innocent people died as a result of suicide bombings, grenade explosions, attacks on government buildings and installations, indiscriminate murders, assassinations, arson and crossfire. In 1971, when East Pakistan declared itself independent of Pakistan, an estimated 3 million people died in the war between the new state of Bangladesh and the parent country. About 8 to 10 million were rendered homeless. In another historical context, A.E. Housman had written: "They say my verse is sad: no wonder, Its narrow measure spans, Tears of eternity and sorrow, Not mine, but man's." These lines may well provide the epigraph of the nation state.

Regional autonomy

The homogenising impulse of the nation state generates resistance. These are political wars; they cannot be resolved by military means. The only way to stem, to ward off disorder and the innumerable tragedies mayhem spawns is to strengthen federalism. A decentralised political system enables participation. It also protects minority identities. This was the precise logic that governed the linguistic reorganisation of States in India in the 1950s. This was the precise logic that gave to J&K, along with other constituent States of the Indian federal system, regional autonomy.

Mature democracies do not steamroller diversity or oppress minorities. They understand that diverse cultures expand and enrich our grasp of the complexities, and the dilemmas of the human condition. A monochromatic society is, by definition, soulless and bare. Stripped of the excitement of learning new languages, acquaintance with new values, familiarity with new cuisines, literature, music, art, sculpture, and ways of conceiving the world, life becomes dull. Life in a plural society promises adventure.

The best way to protect diversity is through the grant of regional autonomy. If we abolish diversity we land up with a sense of longing, loss, and ultimately resentment. Kashmir's greatest contemporary poet, Agha Shahid Ali, who died at 52, powerfully captures this sense of loss and longing in his poem, 'A Wrong Turn': "In my dream I am always in a massacred town, its name/erased from maps/no road signs to it/Only a wrong turn brings me here...." Imagine what happens to a people when they lose Statehood. They become refugees in their own land, the land of their ancestors, the land of their memories, the land of their traditions. We have rootless individuals on our hands. They can go in any direction.

Neera Chandhoke is a former Professor of Political Science at Delhi University

A politically inconvenient data nugget

Data on demonetisation's contribution to the deepening economic slowdown may have been suppressed

PUJA MEHRA

Was a task force report that recommended a new law to replace the more than 50-year-old Income Tax Act, 1961 suppressed because it inadvertently provided factual evidence for the debilitating impact of demonetisation on the formal corporate sector?

On September 1-2, 2017, at the Rajaswa Gyan Sangam (an annual conference of senior tax administrators), Prime Minister Narendra Modi had made an observation regarding the need to redraft the Income Tax Act, 1961. The Union Finance Ministry set the ball rolling for making direct taxes (on personal and corporate incomes) simple and in consonance with India's economic needs. On November 22, 2017, it appointed a six-member 'Task Force for drafting a New Direct Tax Legislation'.

On September 26, 2018, however, an office memorandum was issued "with the approval of the Finance Minister", requesting the task force's convenor "not to submit its report to the Government until and unless the Draft prepared by the Convenor of the Task Force is deliberated clause by clause by all Members of the Task Force and has agreement of all Members or at least majority of Members".

The convenor, an Indian Revenue Service officer and the former Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) Member (Legislation) Arbind Modi, who was closely involved earlier with tax reforms by the A.B. Vajpayee and Manmohan Singh governments, was to superannuate on September 30, 2018. No extension was given for complying with the office memorandum.

The convenor, nevertheless, submitted "four volumes in sealed cover of the report and draft legislation" to the Finance Minister and the Finance Secretary on September 28, 2018 "for continuity" and "record purposes".

In November 2018, the Finance Ministry appointed Akhilesh Ranjan, the new Member (Legislation), CBDT, to succeed Mr. Modi as the task force convenor. Mr. Ranjan submitted his report to the Finance Minister on August 19, 2019.

Demonetisation's blow

Drawing insights from the tax department's database of annual tax returns filed by corporate firms and individuals, Mr. Arbind Modi's report had proposed two alternative approaches along with draft legislations corresponding to each of the models for a new direct taxes law.

The chapter on reform proposals for corporate taxes has a table (page 109, Volume I) that makes for a significant piece of evidence for how demonetisation may have affected companies. The table shows aggregates of investments corporate firms disclosed in their annual tax return filings.

The aggregate of investments disclosed in the assessment year 2017-18, or financial year 2016-17,

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

the demonetisation year, plummeted to ₹4,25,051 crore – or a drop of nearly 60% from the previous year.

In the seven financial years, from 2010-11 to 2016-17, the aggregates of investments disclosed were ₹11,72,550 crore, ₹9,25,010 crore, ₹10,22,376 crore, ₹11,03,969 crore, ₹9,98,056 crore, ₹10,33,847 crore and ₹4,25,051 crore. The near collapse becomes apparent when the aggregates are seen as a percentage of GDP. The investments by corporate firms that filed annual returns in each of the years from 2010-11 to 2016-17 as a percentage of GDP were 15%, 10.5%, 10.2%, 9.8%, 9%, 7.5% and 2.7%.

The aggregate figures are actuals (therefore nominals) sourced from companies' statutory disclosures, and not the estimates or findings of some survey. This in fact makes the data undeniable evidence of demonetisation's contribution to the deepening economic slowdown that has become a headache for the Modi government early in its second tenure.

The report throws up a few more worrying trends. For example, on page 115, Volume I, the report notes: "About 50 percent of the companies registered with the Registrar of Companies filed their income tax returns for the financial year 2016-17 (assessment year 2017-18)"

"The share of loss-making companies has increased from 42 percent in AY 2013-14 to 45 percent in AY 2017-18"

"There has been a decline in the number of corporate filers from the manufacturing sector over the period AY 2013-14 to AY 2017-18"

"The return on equity declined from 16.4 percent in AY 2013-14 to 15.5 percent in AY 2015-16 and thereafter has reversed the trend and increased to 16.5 percent in AY 2017-18"

"The efficiency (productivity) of the corporate tax, which shows the policy choices regarding tax concessions and the overall levels of non-compliance, is extremely low at 7.5 percent over the period AY 2013-14 to 2017-18. Compared to other select economies, India's productivity of corporate income tax is the lowest".

"Given the limited fiscal space available to the Government, economic growth would necessarily have to be driven by private investment.... [but] corporate investments have remained virtually stagnant despite the availability of sufficient retained earnings".

GDP growth estimates

In the report, the trend in aggregate corporate investments figures corresponds to the investment slowdown discernible in the official GDP estimates for 2011-12 onwards. However, the investments aggregate figure for 2016-17 brings into question the GDP growth estimate for the demonetisation year. In the latest round of scheduled revisions, the government had revised upwards the 2016-17 GDP growth estimate, from 7.1% to 8.2%.

As per the revised estimate, the demonetisation year, is the best in the Modi government's first tenure as far as GDP growth is concerned. This when, nearly every industry association reported sharp drops in sales that year on account of the note ban.

The revised estimate defies common sense and runs contrary to comparable data generated by non-government agencies and, as it turns out now, also corporate annual returns tax return filings.

The Finance Ministry has so far not made public the task force reports (the one submitted on September 28, 2018 and the other on August 19, 2019). It remains to be seen whether it will put out the first one for public discussion. Or, if the second one, likely to be made public in due course, will retain the data from the corporate annual tax returns that threaten to expose the role of demonetisation in hurting the economy beyond the informal segment.

Earlier, the government had initially held back and even challenged the validity of the National Sample Survey Office's (NSSO) periodic labour force survey results even after the National Statistical Commission had duly cleared the findings. The results – that the unemployment rate reached a 45-year high in 2017-18, the demonetisation year – were politically inconvenient. The findings were subsequently only released after the completion of the 2019 elections.

Puja Mehra is a Delhi-based journalist

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

Kashmir special status

The continued lamenting on the abrogation of Article 370 and the division of Jammu and Kashmir as well as fear of a possible conflagration expressed by some political leaders and opinion writers is bewildering. Have they forgotten that it is the fruitless dialogue with a belligerent neighbour for decades, sporadic violence instigated by separatists and the helplessness of successive governments in ensuring lasting peace that has forced the Central government to resort to the inevitable?The Prime Minister has made an assurance of early restoration of original status as well as holding elections to usher in growth. Other nations too have recognised the issue as India's "internal matter".

B. GURUMURTHY,
Madurai

Aadhaar linkage

The petition pending in the Madras High Court pertaining to linking social media accounts to Aadhaar poses a dangerous threat to their privacy. With no data protection law in place, this will leave the online users vulnerable (Page 1, "Aadhaar-social media link: SC concerned over misuse of web", August 21). When the right to privacy has been upheld as a fundamental right, the government machinery should come up with innovative solutions that do compromise privacy while checking fake news, defamatory and explicit content. Aadhar-linkage is the easy and lazy way out.

BALAJI AKIRI,
Hyderabad

Journal editorial

It may be the editorial policy of the medical journal, *The Lancet*, to comment on policy that harms people's health (OpEd page, "Recognising fair criticism", August 21). But the hope is that it should be consistent and fair. In this connection, one would like to know whether the journal made similar observations on the plight of Kashmiri Pandits who were evicted forcibly from Kashmir. Was their plight any less? They too must have been under severe stress.

JAYATHEERTHA S.A.,
Hyderabad

■ The reach of high impact journals such as *The Lancet* cannot be disputed. It is puzzling how the medical fraternity in India completely missed the fact about the journal's policy. The virus of intolerance is spreading in India. Unfortunately, medical practitioners have fallen victim this time.

A. VENKATASUBRAMANIAN,
Tiruchi

Growing up years

When my father accompanied me on a medical appointment for a complaint of high BP, the doctor advised me to take up swimming if a daily walk was not possible because of work pressure and the long commute from home to work and back. He said it was one of the best forms of exercise. When I joined a swimming course on the first day, my father dived into the swimming pool which took me by surprise. He was fit as a fiddle even in his late sixties. He told me that he had learnt swimming with other children in his hometown where there were lakes and canals. Parents must pay heed to physical activities for their children . Now learning to swim comes with a cost. Parents must ensure that their children have a balanced life in this age of social media (Open Page, "Of wonder-filled childhood", August 18).

S. ARJUN PRASANNA,
Bengaluru

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Sacrificing liberty for national security

The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Act could prove catastrophic for fundamental rights

SANJAY HEGDE

In Parliament this month, former Union Minister P. Chidambaram questioned the need for certain amendments to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), 1967. The Bill empowers the Central government to name any individual a terrorist if it believes him or her to be so.

Arguments in Parliament

Mr. Chidambaram said, "We [the Congress] are opposing the mischievous amendment which has empowered the Central government to name an individual [as a terrorist]... The real mischief is in Section 35 sub-section (2)... as amended reads: The Central government shall exercise its power under Clause (a) of sub-section (1) in respect of an organisation or an individual only if it believes [that] such [an] organisation or individual is involved in terrorism... There is no FIR. There is no charge sheet. There are no charges framed. There is no trial in a court. There is no conviction... What is the basis in which you will name an individual? Only because you believe he's involved in terrorism... My worry is, who you are going to name first? Don't compare Hafiz Saeed with Gautam Navlakha. My worry is there's a close parallel between sedition and unlawful activity. In Bhima Koregaon... all the accused... are all activists... I believe that none of them advocates violence. If you name somebody only because you *believe* he is involved in terrorism, that day none of us can sleep in peace."

Defending the amendment, Home Minister Amit Shah said: "This Act is to fight terror and has no other purpose... Chidambaramji asked why name an individual as a terrorist when the organisation he is affiliated to is already banned. It is because we ban one organisation, another one comes up by the same individual. Till when will we keep banning organisations?"

The above parliamentary exchange mirrors the uneasiness of the powerless when confronted by the seemingly righteous indignation expressed by governments seeking increased powers to deal with disaffection and anarchy. Governments keep asserting that they bear no malice, but only seek to keep the country united against existential threats. Those in Opposition are wary of laying the citizen's liberties at the feet of the great man of the day.

"The UAPA carries no safeguards against its misuse at an individual level." Activist Gautam Navlakha and human rights lawyer Sudha Bharadwaj, who were charged under the UAPA, in New Delhi in 2018. • SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

The UAPA was passed by the Indira Gandhi government. Its political justification then was to deal with the secessionist utterances of the Dravidian movement. During the 1962 war, the Communist Party blamed Jawaharlal Nehru and did not wholeheartedly support the Indian troops. In 1966, Hindu Sadhus protesting against cow slaughter marched in front of Parliament. It was against this backdrop that an unlawful activity was defined as "any action taken... (i) which is intended, or supports any claim, to bring about, on any ground whatsoever, the cession of a part of the territory of India or the secession of a part of the territory of India from the Union, or which incites any individual or group of individuals to bring about such cession or secession; or (ii) which disclaims, questions, disrupts or is intended to disrupt the sovereignty and territorial integrity of India; or (iii) which causes or is intended to cause disaffection against India."

In his speech in Parliament during the no-confidence motion of July 1993, Atal Bihari Vajpayee recalled, "When the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Bill was presented in the House in 1967, I was a member of the House... A grand debate was held that time. Shri Yashwant Rao Chavan went on assuring the Members that it would not be applied against them. He gave an assurance that the Government was seeking a right to take action against those who wanted to disintegrate the country. I too delivered my speech. I started [sic] my apprehension that the Government would involve all the opposition parties in the name of so-called cause of integrity and declare the opposition as unlawful. Those who would be declared unlawful would go underground. You want to stop the unlawful activities, but how can you stop these activities, you have the option to arrest them; but are you making arrests that can win the battle of thoughts?"

It is pertinent to mention that when Vajpayee was speaking thus, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh itself had been declared unlawful under the UAPA by a notification of December 10, 1992. Despite his apprehensions in 1967, Vajpayee and other individual members of banned organisations were not arrested solely on grounds of being a member of such an organisation.

Today, however, the UAPA is not confined only to cases of secessionist organisations. It has now been extended to cases of terrorism too. After two draconian anti-terrorist legislation – the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act and the Prevention of Terrorism Act – were repealed due to repeated misuse by law enforcement authorities, the UAPA was amended in 2004 to bring into its fold cases of terrorism. A large list of organisations such as the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the Hizbul Mujahideen and the Khalistan Commando Force have been included in the schedule to the UAPA as banned organisations. Most of these bans are not challenged, and judicial tribunals have upheld the imposition of such bans from time to time.

Banning an organisation renders its members vulnerable to prosecution. Other than imprisonment, consequences include loss of property linked to terrorism. To avoid such drastic results, a member of such an organisation may prove that he or she has not interacted with the organisation after the ban order. The organisation itself may challenge the notification in a judicial tribunal.

No defences

All these defences will vanish if an individual is notified as a terrorist. No link to any organisation needs to be proved. What is worse is that people consorting in any manner with a notified individual can also be roped in under the Act. The Act itself is broadly framed, to sweep in all kinds of suspect organisations. The same looseness of language when applied to an individual can be catastrophic at the level of his fundamental rights. Almost any utterance on social media these days can be construed as one "which causes or is intended to cause disaffection against India".

The Act itself carries no safeguards against its misuse at an individual level. A judicial determination at a later stage is scant solace to a man in danger of losing liberty and his house for being associated with someone who has been designated as a terrorist under the Act. The die has been cast, however. Despite Mr. Chidambaram's arguments, his party ended up ensuring the passage of the amendment. At the end of the day, the Congress and the BJP have together sacrificed individual liberties at the altar of national security. Benjamin Franklin said: "Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety." Indians deserve better respect for their liberties than this ill-thought-out parliamentary misadventure.

Sanjay Hegde is a senior advocate of the Supreme Court of India

The risks of legalising cannabis

Commercialisation could be dangerous

DEEPAK C. D'SOUZA & JATINDER SINGH

There is a growing movement in the West to legalise cannabis, with rumblings of the same in India. Having conducted medical research on cannabis at Yale University for several decades, we urge India to carefully weigh the risks and benefits of cannabis before blindly following suit with the West.

In India, cannabis, also known as *bhang, ganja, charas* or *hashish*, is typically eaten (*bhang golis, thandai, pakoras, lassi,* etc.) or smoked (chillum or cigarette). Its potency depends on the content of its principal active constituent, tetrahydrocannabinol, though cannabis contains more than 500 other chemicals. In India, there is a tradition of using cannabis in many religious contexts. But although Ayurvedic texts refer to cannabis as a treatment for several maladies, what is often overlooked is that it is categorised as *Upavisha Varga* (sub poisonous), and its recreational use has been described as toxic.

Busting myths

There are many misconceptions about cannabis. First, it is not accurate that cannabis is harmless. Its immediate effects include impairments in memory and in mental processes, including ones that are critical for driving. Long-term use of cannabis may lead to the development of addiction of the substance, persistent cognitive deficits, and of mental health problems like schizophrenia, depression and anxiety. Exposure to cannabis in adolescence can alter brain development.

A second myth is that if cannabis is legalised and regulated, its harms can be minimised. With legalisation comes commercialisation. This comes at a cost which we have seen with tobacco and alcohol over the last century. The morbidity and mortality associated with tobacco and alcohol rank amongst the top 10 in terms of the global disease burden. Tobacco, too, was initially touted as a natural and harmless plant that had been "safely" used in South American religious ceremonies for centuries. The tobacco industry invented cigarettes for ease of use, altered the acidity of tobacco to make it less harsh, added other chemicals to improve its taste, mass-produced cigarettes, and sold them using sophisticated advertising. It manipulated knowledge about the adverse effects of tobacco despite being aware of these effects, and successfully staved off legal battles for decades. No amount of taxation of the tobacco industry can compensate for the health toll on billions of tobacco users over the last century. Despite knowledge of the risks of smoking, cigarettes remain legal and the tobacco industry continues to thrive. This also highlights the point that once out, the genie cannot be put back into the bottle.

It's important to make a distinction between legalisation, decriminalisation and commercialisation. While legalisation and decriminalisation are mostly used in a legal context, commercialisation relates to the business side of things. The goal of commercialisation is to sell as much of the product, and the cannabis industry is steadily growing in the U.S. In fact, as the sale of tobacco products have shown signs of a decline in the West, some tobacco companies have entered the cannabis market. Altria, the maker of Marlboro cigarettes, has invested $1.8 billion (₹12,400 crore) in the cannabis grower Cronos Group. These commercial entities will bring their wealth of experience navigating the law, their successful marketing, their well-oiled lobbying, and deep pockets to influence the government to maximise profit and minimise risk to their commercial enterprise. In the U.S., cannabis is being incorrectly advertised as being "natural" and "healthier than alcohol and tobacco". Commercial entities also understand that targeting the young assures them lifelong customers. A new array of cannabis products in the form of ice creams, sweets, and even soft-drinks are becoming available. The West also says that legalising and regulating cannabis will "undermine criminal markets". Congress MP Shashi Tharoor echoed this view last year. Yet, as we have seen in Colorado, the black market has only increased.

Considering alternatives

In 1961, driven by Western nations, the UN sponsored an international treaty to prohibit the production and supply of drugs including cannabis. India resisted and negotiated exceptions, loopholes, and deferrals. It is ironic that the West is now legalising cannabis and other drugs. Given that some in India are clamouring for the same, the country should carefully consider all the risks, and consider alternatives. One, it could decriminalise cannabis but forbid commercialisation. Two, if India were to liberalise its policy on cannabis, it should ensure that there are enough protections for children, the young, and those with severe mental illnesses, who are most vulnerable to its effects. Finally, treatments for those who become addicted to cannabis should be offered.

Deepak Cyril D'Souza is Professor of Psychiatry at the Yale University School of Medicine and Jatinder Singh is a research fellow in the Department of Psychiatry, Yale University School of Medicine

The 'Kerala Model' is unsustainable

Over the years, parties have responded to commercial interests over the welfare of people

PULAPRE BALAKRISHNAN

In 2018 Kerala was overwhelmed by an unprecedented natural event. Flooding combined with landslides caused many deaths. Floods were not new to Kerala, which receives high rainfall. What was new compared to the times of equally high rainfall in the early part of the last century was the flooding due to inept dam management and the vulnerability of the terrain induced by the pattern of land use. In 2019 we have seen some of this repeated. This year it is the landslides that have caused most deaths. They are a relatively recent phenomenon, pointing to the role of uncontrolled economic expansion.

Man-made factors leading to devastation point to the unsustainability of the so-called 'Kerala Model', a term used to describe the economic policy underpinning the State's recent growth and development history. Lauded for the high human development indicators it is believed to have bestowed upon the State, this construct contributed to a self-congratulatory discourse within the power elite. Based on the pertinent observation of Amartya Sen that the State seemed to have attained high social development at a relatively low level of income by comparison to the rest of India, it was soon appropriated by the political class including artists and intellectuals who collaborate with state power. Any lack of enthusiasm was greeted with intolerance, similar to what ultra-nationalists display today when challenged on their claims about India.

Many failures

Criticism of the Kerala Model has been based on its several failures. The foremost is the inability to meet the employment aspirations of the people, pushing them to live under authoritarian regimes overseas. Second, the laudable public provision of health and education has been financed by borrowing. Kerala has the highest per capita public debt among States, implying that we are passing on the bill for our own maintenance to future generations. Finally, Kerala has not done so well when viewed through the lens of gender justice. High levels of female education have not led to an equally high participation of women in the labour force or in governance, even though they participate equally in elections.

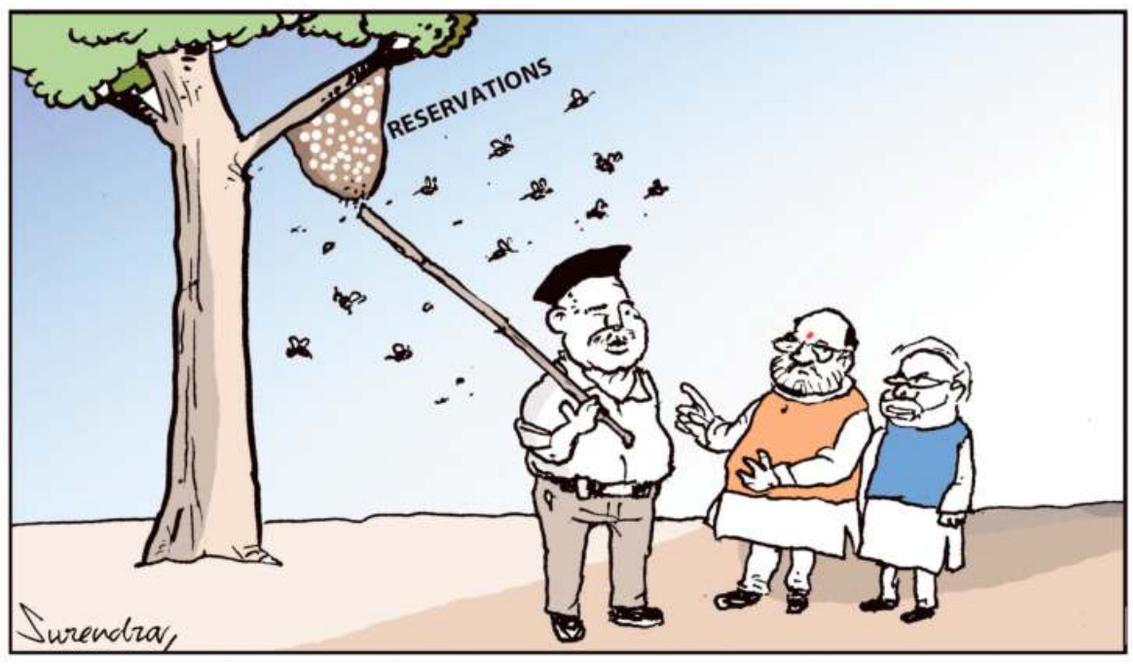
Two consecutive years of a natural calamity exacerbated by human action are a revelation that the Kerala Model has run its course. The extraordinary events that we have witnessed this year range from fountains sprouting out of the earth due to the hitherto unknown 'water piping' to constructed structures shifting, physical phenomena not yet widely understood. There has been overbuilding in Kerala, with absentee owners having invested in luxury houses they do not always occupy. As a result poorer households are crowded out of safe locations on the plains to precarious ones on the hills.

Relaxing rules

Public policy has failed miserably to regulate land use including rampant quarrying, which destabilises the earth's surface, with political patronage. Truth is that public policy is part of the problem. The floodgates were opened in 2015 when the Congress party did away with environmental clearance for quarries in existence for three years. Then in 2017 the Pinarayi Vijayan government relaxed the rules for quarrying further. It also weakened the provisions of the legislation governing conversion of agricultural land into construction sites. The rice paddies had both produced food and served as gargantuan sinks for rainwater. Kerala's principal political parties, irrespective of their ideologies, have responded to commercial interests over the welfare of ordinary people.

To come out of this morass the people of Kerala would have to rely on themselves. They need to acknowledge that their consumption pattern must change as it has adversely impacted the natural environment, the consequences of which have begun to hurt them. In this task they are unlikely to be guided by the State's politicians and intellectuals who led them into this cul-de-sac in the first place.

Pulapre Balakrishnan is Professor, Ashoka University, Sonipat and Senior Fellow, IIM Kozhikode



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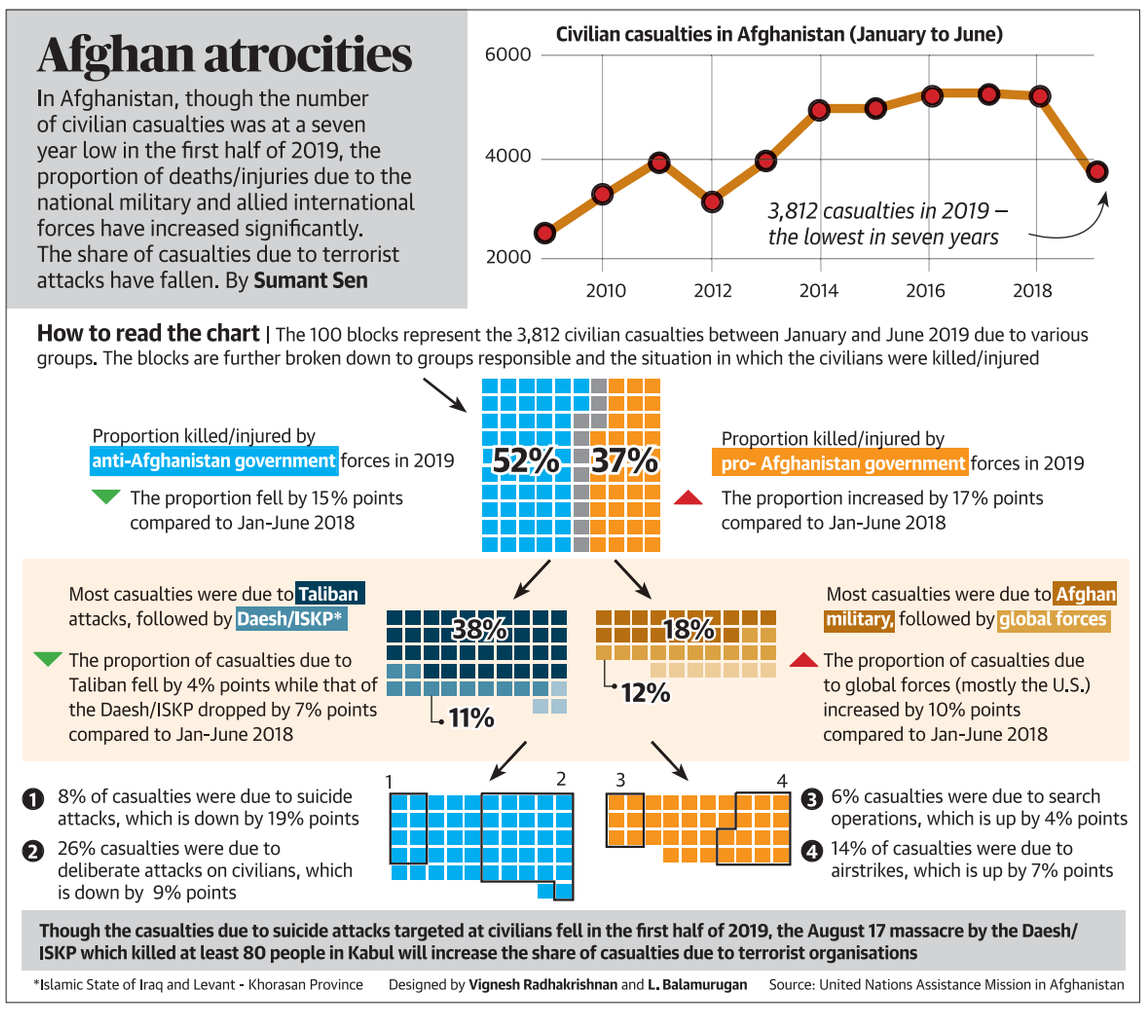


The Hindu.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO AUGUST 22, 1969

The Lok Pal experiment

(From an Editorial)

With the passing of the Lok Pal and Lokayuktas Bill by the Lok Sabha, the country is embarking on a fresh method of tackling the problem of corruption and maladministration at the highest levels. Though many remedies and procedures are even now available to get wrongs righted the chief merit of the Lok Pal (called "Ombudsman" in the Scandinavian countries) is that he will be easily accessible to the common man who feels that he has been wronged by some action by a Minister or Departmental Secretary. The Lok Pal is to be appointed by the President in consultation with the Chief Justice of India and the Leader of the Opposition and he will be an independent authority who cannot look forward to a second term of office. He will have the power to call for official documents and summon any person to give evidence and he will submit his recommendations for remedial action to the Government within a short time. The Government will have to intimate within three months the action it has taken on his report.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO AUGUST 22, 1919.

The Peril in South Africa.

Reuter's report of what he called the Indian Congress held at Johannesburg in the first week of this month made it appear to be no more important than a local meeting of the ordinary variety held to protest against what he believed to be not very serious grievances. That the impression created by Reuter was wholly false and that the Conference was a most momentous one in many ways is now clear from the account of its nature appearing in South African Indian papers received by yesterday's mail. In the first place, it was a convention of the entire Indian community in the Union. The exact significance of this will be appreciated, only if one remembers that the Indian community in South Africa is not a compact body living in close contact and under uniform laws, but one scattered throughout the Union and subject to the varying local provincial laws. For the time being, no doubt, it is only in the Transvaal that danger has arisen in the shape of the recent Asiatic Act. But, as Indian Opinion puts it, "whilst it is true that the storm centre is, for the time being, the Transvaal, there is reason to fear that the position of Indians throughout the Union is a matter for grave concern."

FROM PAGE ONE

Chidambaram arrested in INX Media case

"I believe that the foundation of a democracy is liberty, [and the] most precious article of the Constitution is Article 21 that guarantees life and liberty. If I am asked to choose between life and liberty, I will choose liberty," Mr. Chidambaram said.

He said that when he got summons from the CBI and the ED it was only natural that he moved the court to get interim relief.

After rejection of the anticipatory bail plea in the Delhi High Court, on the recommendation of his lawyers he moved the apex court.

He said that he was aghast that he was being branded as an absconder.

"I was accused of running away from justice. On the contrary I was engaged in the pursuit of justice," he added explaining that he along with his team were working to complete the necessary papers to move the Supreme Court.

His bail plea is listed for Friday in the apex court.

No plan to curb social media: Madras HC

Differentiating between issues being adjudicated by other High Courts and that which they were dealing with, the judges said, a decision was taken by them long back to "not address" the prayers as such in the two PIL petitions in view of the Supreme Court verdict upholding the constitutional validity of Aadhaar with riders.

In a majority opinion delivered in Justice K.S. Puttaswamy's case on September 26, 2018, the Supreme Court had held that there was nothing wrong in linking Aadhaar with the Permanent Account Number (PAN) issued by the Income Tax department but declared as unconstitutional its linkage with bank accounts and SIM cards.

The court had also insulated children from the Aadhaar regime and ordered that educational institutions should not insist on production of Aadhaar cards. Therefore, the Division Bench of the Madras High Court had chosen to not entertain the PIL petitioners' plea for linking Aadhaar with social media accounts.

However, when the State police complained to the court about lack of cooperation by most of the social media giants in solving cyber crimes, the Bench decided to adjudicate that issue alone in terms of the provisions of the Information Technology Act of 2000 and the statutory rules framed thereunder.

Senior counsel Mukul Rohatgi, representing one of the social media companies, stated that all these issues were brought to the notice of the Supreme Court on Tuesday by Attorney General K.K. Venugopal. Yet, the apex court had restrained the Madras High Court from passing any kind of "effective order" on the PIL petitions.

Stating that it was actually a polite way of asking the High Court to not proceed with the hearing on the PIL petitions until a decision was taken by the apex court on the transfer petitions, the senior counsel urged the court to simply adjourn the hearing after September 13, the next date of hearing on the transfer plea.

Accepting his submissions, the Bench led by Justice Manikumar adjourned the hearing on the two PIL petitions to September 19. It said, propriety would demand that the High Court await the decision of the superior court.

Cleaning services on trains will be hit

"The estimation of the money saved due to this exercise should be sent to Headquarters by 22/08/2019 after which further curtailment of services such as Annual Maintenance and Operation Contract (AMOC) of bio-toilets, pest control and even linen will be considered," he said.

Bills mounting

With old dues pending and fresh bills mounting, Southern Railway saw the trouble coming and sent an SOS to the Ministry of Railways on 05/07/2019 pointing to the shortage of funds.

It said adequate fund allocation was urgently required not only to run OBHS on 110 long distance trains originating from the zone but to introduce the service on 37 trains that qualified for it as per Railway Board norms.

A month later, General Manager Rahul Jain sent a reminder reiterating the urgent requirement of funds for essential passenger amenities. Besides ₹22 crore due to contractors, he said fresh bills to the tune of ₹40 crore were ready for submission.

"This lack of funds has caused serious distress to the contractors as they are unable to pay their staff and to procure consumables. There is a strong likelihood that work may cease...it is requested that urgent provision of funds may please be made for these essential passenger amenity activities," he said.

A senior railway official said there was no word from the Railway Board on funds and hence there was no choice but to run trains without housekeeping.

"If the situation continues, we will soon withdraw linen, pest control services, bio-toilet maintenance services...yes it's going to be tough to handle passenger complaints on dirty coaches and stinking toilets. This is a major setback to the ongoing Swachch Bharat mission on Indian Railways," the official, who preferred not to be quoted, said.

In Hyderabad, Amazon opens its biggest campus

E-commerce commands around 3% of the total retail market in India. "When it is that small, there is so much room to grow," he added.

Macro conditions were unlikely to seriously impact e-commerce growth, Mr. Agarwal said. He said Amazon was committed to the long term and "does not get distracted by what's happening in short cycles. We continue to invest, add more selection, continue to make things more affordable, faster... growing at a very heavy rate."

The built-up area at the new campus includes 1.8 million sq.ft. of office space that can seat 15,000 people, a large space that Amazon planned to use to consolidate its operations. Hyderabad hosts one-third of the India headcount of over 60,000 for Amazon.

ED, CBI allege 'illegal' FIPB nod

Agencies say these relate to clearances given when Chidambaram was Minister

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The main offence against Congress leader P. Chidambaram revolves around certain "illegal" approvals by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board during his tenure as former Finance Minister and alleged kickbacks received by his son Karti through shell companies, according to the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

On Wednesday, CBI officials visited Mr. Chidambaram's Jor Bagh residence again, hours after they had pasted a notice on the wall outside his house asking him to appear before the INX Media case probe team within two hours.

Both the Central agencies have already issued look-out circulars against him.

The agencies allege that in several cases, including Aircel-Maxis and INX Media, "illegal" FIPB approvals were granted. "These approvals are being investigated by the Central Bureau of Investigation and the ED," said a senior official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

A CBI notice pasted on the compound wall of Congress leader P. Chidambaram's house in Delhi on Wednesday. ▪R.V. MOORTHY

The CBI is investigating the alleged receipt of kickbacks paid to various shell companies "linked" to Mr. Karti, which were floated in the name of his employee and business associates.

Panama Papers

In one shell company, deposits of more than ₹300 crore were made. One firm received payments from a British Virgin Islands-based company, which had figured in the Panama Papers. Payments by an Indian home financing company to a Singapore-based entity are also being probed, the official said. The ED is pursuing money-laundering charges and investments in moveable/immoveable assets in India and countries such as the U.K., Spain and Malaysia. It claims to have identified more than two dozen foreign bank accounts.

"Investigations by the CBI and the ED are still continuing in above referred cases," the official said. "Only in the case of Aircel-Maxis, charge sheet and prosecution complaint [by ED] has been filed," the official added.

The shareholders and directors of a main shell company had made a Will transferring the entire shareholding to Mr. Chidambaram's granddaughter, the ED says. The Executor of the Will was Mr. Karti, the agency alleges.

Witch-hunt for speaking truth: Cong.

Party leaders say Modi government is only reiterating its cowardly nature

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Wednesday rallied around former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram, who is facing arrest in two cases of alleged corruption.

Many senior leaders, including former Congress president Rahul Gandhi and general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, have called the action taken by the CBI and the Enforcement Directorate a witch-hunt for speaking out against the government.

Stalin's support

Barring Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam president M.K. Stalin, who came out in support of Mr. Chidambaram, the other Opposition parties have maintained a studied silence.

"[Prime Minister Narendra] Modi's government is using the ED, CBI and sections of a spineless media to character-assassinate Mr. Chidambaram. I strongly condemn this disgraceful misuse of power," Mr. Gandhi said on Twitter.

His sister and Congress general secretary, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, tweeted that Mr. Chidambaram was being hunted down for speaking the truth.

"He unhesitatingly speaks truth to power and exposes the failures of this government, but the truth is inconvenient to cowards so he is being shamefully hunted down," Ms. Vadra said in a tweet.

She said the party would stand by him and continue to fight for the truth no matter what the consequences are. The Congress officially too has taken an unequivocal stand supporting him, and accused the government of "persecuting" him for speaking truth.

"A government that persecutes its citizens for speaking truth to power is only reiterating its own cowardly nature. P. Chidambaram is an extremely qualified and respected leader. He has served this nation with dedication & humility. We stand by his quest for truth no matter what," the Congress said on its official Twitter account.

The Congress, however, did not hold a formal press briefing to take a stand on the issue.

Chidambaram fails to get hearing at SC

Bail plea caught in filing procedure

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

Former Union Finance Minister P. Chidambaram's plea on Wednesday to protect him from arrest in the INX Media case got tangled in the nitty-gritty of filing procedure in the Supreme Court and failed to reach the judges on time for a hearing.

P. Chidambaram

The day saw senior advocates Kapil Sibal, Salman Khurshid and Vivek Tankha engage in a dogged pursuit to have the case listed before a Bench.

Mr. Tankha told *The Hindu* that it had been orally conveyed to them by the apex court Registry that the case would be listed on August 23 (Friday) before an appropriate Bench.

"We want a hearing. My client is not running away. A lookout notice has been issued against him. It is painful...", Mr. Sibal said at one point.

Mr. Sibal and his team waited expectantly to catch the attention of Chief Justice of India (CJI) Ranjan Gogoi, who was at the head of a Constitution Bench rising for the day at 4 p.m. after hearing the Ayodhya appeals. They expected him to address them before leaving the courtroom. But he left without a word.

The series of events began with Mr. Sibal making an oral mention before Justice Ramana at 10.30 a.m. He fervently sought an urgent hearing of Mr. Chidambaram's appeal against the dismissal of his anticipatory bail plea by the Delhi High Court on Tuesday.

"Please give him [Mr. Chidambaram] the relief of protection from arrest. If he is arrested, this entire petition for anticipatory bail becomes infructuous," Mr. Sibal urged.

The mentioning was made before Justice Ramana, the third most senior judge of the apex court, as Chief Justice Gogoi and Justice S.A. Bobde, the second most senior judge, were both part of the Ayodhya Bench.

But Justice Ramana was non-committal. He simply told the lawyers that the case file would be placed before the Chief Justice. It was the prerogative of the CJI, as master of roster, to decide the time of the hearing and appropriate Bench for the case.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, for the CBI, intervened to say that the INX Media case involved "money laundering of monumental magnitude."

Mr. Sibal and his team left Justice Ramana's court to immediately troop into the CJI court next door where the Ayodhya Bench was about to assemble. However, when the judges sat for the day, the legal team, after a few moments of taut silence, inexplicably withdrew from the courtroom without mentioning the case.

By afternoon, after a closed-door huddle in the Supreme Court consultation rooms, Mr. Sibal and his team were back in Justice Ramana's court room at 2 p.m.

Present evidence on Ram temple claim: SC

'People's faith had never been in question'

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday asked the Hindu parties' lawyers to present objective evidence to show that a temple, especially one dedicated to Lord Ram, once stood on the Ramjanmabhumi.

Both Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi and Justice D.Y. Chandrachud said the lawyers need not labour to prove that people believed in Ramjanmabhumi. People's faith had never been in question. The lawyers instead should present evidence on their claim that a massive temple stood on the exact spot.

Wednesday saw senior advocate C.S. Vaidyanathan for Ram lalla concluding his arguments by submitting that the Ramjanmabhumi was itself a deity and could not be partitioned. "If the property itself is the deity, nobody can claim ownership of the land. Nobody can claim adverse possession [on the basis of Babri mosque]," he submitted.

Mr. Vaidyanathan contended that if there was once a temple on the Ramjanmabhumi and people were worshipping there as the birthplace, then nobody could possibly claim ownership by adverse possession.

He said the Ayodhya deity was a perpetual minor. The property of a minor cannot be dealt with, sold or alienated. He questioned how the Allahabad High Court, in its verdict in September 2010, could have handed over the property of the minor Ayodhya deity to others.

23 new members join Yogi Adityanath's Ministry

Upper castes and OBCs get greater representation

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
LUCKNOW

Upper Caste and Other Backward Classes legislators and leaders with an RSS background were favoured as Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath expanded his Ministry on Wednesday, his first since March 2017 when the BJP-led alliance formed a majority government in the State.

Twenty-three Ministers, including six Cabinet Ministers, were administered oath by Governor Anandiben Patel at the Raj Bhavan.

Out of the 23, upper castes dominated with 11 Ministers, while the OBCs who form over 40% of the State;s population, had nine representatives.

The remaining three were Dalits, who make up 21% of Uttar Pradesh's electorate.

Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath with the newly inducted Ministers. ▪PTI

While four Ministers of State (independent charge) were promoted to the Cabinet rank, two fresh faces were also inducted.

They were Kamal Rani Varun, a Dalit (Pasi) MLA from Ghatampur in Kanpur, and Ram Naresh Agnihotri, a Brahmin MLA from Bhogaon in Mainpuri.

Ms. Varun, a first-time MLA, is a former councillor and pracharak of Seva Bharti, an RSS affiliate.

Mr. Agnihotri was an RSS pracharak during 1980-82.

Suresh Rana and Mahendra Singh (both Thakurs), and Anil Rajbhar and Bhupendra Singh Chaudhary (both OBCs) were promoted to the Cabinet.

The elevation of Mr. Rajbhar is in line with the BJP's strategy to project him as the leader of the Rajbhar community which is politically active in eastern Uttar Pradesh.

CBI registers fresh case against NDTV

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Central Bureau of Investigation has registered a fresh case against NDTV Ltd., its promoters Prannoy Roy and Radhika Roy and others for alleged Foreign Direct Investment rule violation and routing of tainted money of unknown public servants through shell firms.

In its response, the company on Wednesday said: "Despite a series of cases in which the investigation is deliberately stalled, agencies have found no evidence of any corruption by NDTV. Prannoy and Radhika Roy, the founders of NDTV, as also the company, have cooperated in all matters filed against them."

Alleging continued persecution of the free press, NDTV said the new case had been filed about a $150-million investment in its non-news business by NBCU, then owned by U.S.-based General Electric.

Ludicrous charge

"The case makes the ludicrous charge that the transaction, declared to all relevant authorities in the U.S. and India, laundered money for unknown public servants," the company said, expressing faith in the Indian judiciary.

Among those accused in the FIR are the then NDTV CEO and director Vikramaditya Chandra, whose premises were searched on Wednesday, and unknown Income Tax Department officials.

The FIR is based on a preliminary inquiry.

The agency said that between 2004 and 2010, NDTV floated around 32 subsidiary firms all over the world, "mostly in tax havens viz. Holland, U.K., Dubai, Malaysia, Mauritius, etc."

Panel to study corporatisation of Ordnance Factory Board

'At the current rate and in the present model, OFB has no future'

DINAKAR PERI
NEW DELHI

The Government is set to form a high level committee to examine the aspects of corporatisation of the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) and work out the modalities, defence sources said while rejecting apprehensions from employees that there is an attempt at privatisation.

"A high-level committee will study the issue and take a call on what needs to be done," a senior source said. It will be a political call on how to go about.

The Kolkata-headquartered OFB with 41 factories spread across the country functions under the Department of Defence Production. Due to this every decision and action needs the approval of the Cabinet, officials said. For instance, in 2001 the OFB was to set up a plant at Nalanda in Bihar to manufacture bi-modular charges for the Army with initial investment of around ₹800 crore, which went up to ₹2,000 crore later. But the plant has not been set up till date, the source said.

On the contrary the Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSU) do not have such hassles and have been establishing joint ventures and partnerships for technology development and other things. "At the current rate and in the present model OFB has no future," the source said, and added that today there is "no accountability and result orientation". The total support to OFB is around ₹6,500 crore both from indents from the Army and direct budgetary support.

Rajiv Gauba appointed Cabinet Secretary

Ajay Kumar to be Defence Secretary

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
AHMEDABAD

The Modi government on Wednesday appointed outgoing Home Secretary Rajiv Gauba as Cabinet Secretary for two years. His tenure will be effective from August 30, 2019, says the official order.

The order issued by the Department of Personnel and Training has stated that the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet had also approved his appointment as Officer on Special Duty in the Cabinet Secretariat with immediate effect till he takes over as Cabinet Secretary from August 30.

A 1982-batch IAS officer of the Jharkhand cadre, Mr. Gauba will replace P.K. Sinha, who was appointed Cabinet Secretary in 2015.

Ajay Kumar, Secretary, Defence Production, has been shifted as Secretary, Defence.

A 1985-batch IAS officer belonging to the Kerala cadre, he will replace Sanjay Mitra, who was Defence Secretary for more than two years.

It seems the government has done away with the two-year tenure for the Defence Secretary's post.

Our guards had become our jailors: Salman Soz

Cong. leader says 'Constitution has been savagely attacked'

VIJAITA SINGH
NEW DELHI

Senior Congress leader Salman Anees Soz, who was under house arrest for 10 days in Srinagar earlier this month, says that "if peaceful protests are allowed" in the Kashmir Valley, the crowds will be "far bigger than the ones you see in Hong Kong".

In an interview to *The Hindu* over WhatsApp from the U.S, Mr. Soz, who travelled to Srinagar after the Valley was locked down, said he and members of his family, including his father and former Cabinet Minister Saifuddin Soz, were placed under house arrest without any written orders.

Refusing to divulge details of how he was able to leave the Valley, Mr. Soz tweeted on Monday: "I was allowed to accompany my wife and children out of Kashmir on August 15, out of India on August 17. In Kashmir, the Constitution seems helpless. Don't blindly trust the government."

Other members of his family, however, continue to be in detention.

'Surreal move'

"It was surreal... But when my father, Professor Saifuddin Soz, was informed by our security guards that he was not to move out of our home, it became clear that these arrests were widespread. I was informed about my house arrest a day later. The head of the guards at our home, from the J&K Police, said this [order] is direct from [Prime Minister Narendra] Modi. Our guards were now our jailors," Mr. Soz recalled.

Mr. Soz said the family had access to Delhi-based news channels intermittently. "We watched news, much of which seemed implausible. The news was largely supplied by the government and it was impossible to verify what was going on," he said.

Mr. Soz said the Centre's decision was "disastrous at many levels".

Pyrrhic victory

"Those who are celebrating as if Kashmir has been conquered and Kashmiris subjugated, should look up the definition of a Pyrrhic victory. The Constitution has been savagely attacked. ... Of course, in Kashmir, this move will likely lead to serious adverse consequences," he said.

He said the Centre's move was likely to increase alienation in the Valley.

"While I personally hope that our young people do not resort to violence of any kind, we have to be realistic. Militant ranks may swell and this is not good for Kashmir because it impacts us adversely and squeezes space for direct action by peaceful means ... the Modi government's action to detain the entire political leadership of Kashmir and the unprecedented clampdown are suffocating opportunities to resist the government through peaceful means," Mr. Soz said.

Security personnel standing guard in Srinagar on Wednesday, the 16th day of restrictions. ▪ NISSAR AHMAD

'Counter-curfew' follows lifting of Kashmir curbs

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

A spontaneous shutdown by shopkeepers and a "counter civil curfew" worries the security establishment, as the administration lifted stringent restrictions on the movement of vehicles in many parts of Kashmir on Wednesday.

A group of shopkeepers dodged multiple security barricades and obstacles from the old city to reach upmarket Polo View in Lal Chowk, but decided against opening their Kashmir arts shops. "I just come to check the locks of my shop. We are heavily dependent on tourist footfall. This season is gone. We sit outside our shops and don't open. This closed shop is my small expression of anger [against the Centre's move]," said Niyaz Ahmad, who deals in shawls.

Meanwhile, schools continue to register dismal attendance of students, according to officials.

Spontaneous shutdowns is worrying the security establishment.

'India should be wary of a U.S.-Pak. deal'

Karzai says Islamabad is trying to hold the Afghan peace process hostage to its Kashmir objectives

SUHASINI HAIDAR
NEW DELHI

India should be wary of a possible U.S.-Pakistan "deal" on Afghanistan, warned former Afghan President Hamid Karzai, as U.S. special envoy Zalmay Khalilzad was set to begin another round of talks in Doha to try and reach a deal with the Taliban.

Mr. Karzai, who was here to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, said he had conveyed the "fears for Afghanistan" if there was a deal that involved Pakistan.

"We Afghans have suffered massively the consequences of American-Pakistani deals," Mr. Karzai told *The Hindu* in an interview. "Now too, this is very likely, and this is our fear and concern. We have been clear with Ambassador Khalilzad that we will fully back negotiations for peace in Afghanistan, but we draw a clear distinction between peace in Afghanistan and U.S.-Pakistani deals in Afghanistan," he said, adding that India, which had suffered similar consequences, "should be extremely worried".

Responding to Mr. Trump's recent comments, where he framed the India-Pakistan problem over Kashmir as a religious issue, Mr. Karzai said the U.S. President was being "too simplistic".

"Hindus and Muslims have lived together for centuries in this part of the world and produced great achievements together. Any division on a Hindu-Muslim basis is very simplistic," Mr. Karzai said.

India has made no comment on Mr. Trump's remarks, which included another offer of mediation between New Delhi and Islamabad, despite the government repeatedly rejecting any third party role. The Afghan peace process, the scenario in Kashmir and tensions between India and Pakistan are expected to be discussed when Mr. Trump interacts with Mr. Modi on the sidelines of the G-7 summit in Biarritz, France this week, the first time the two leaders will meet since June.

Mr. Karzai, who returned to Kabul on Wednesday, also rejected Pakistan's threat that India's move on Article 370 would have consequences for the Afghan peace process. "Pakistan's desire to link the two indicates that it still sees Afghanistan as a place for 'strategic depth', to the detriment of Afghanistan. We don't see any link between events in Kashmir to the peace process in Afghanistan, and we would like that Pakistan doesn't try to hold the peace process hostage to its objectives in Kashmir," Mr. Karzai said.

On Tuesday, Mr. Khalilzadtweeted that he was going to Doha to try and "close on remaining issues" for a final agreement.

Hamid Karzai, former President of Afghanistan. ▪ AFP

Army HQ rejig gets Rajnath's nod

Separate Vigilance Cell and a body on human rights issues will be set up

DINAKAR PERI
NEW DELHI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has approved certain decisions on reorganisation of the Army Headquarters (AHQ) that will initiate the biggest transformation exercise in the Army since Independence. These measures are part of the four studies being undertaken by the Army for force restructuring and transformation.

The measures approved include a separate Vigilance Cell under the Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) with tri-service representation, an umbrella organisation under the Vice-Chief of the Army Staff (VCOAS) for enhanced focus on human rights (HR) issues and relocation of 206 Army officers from the AHQ to formations/units in the field, the Defence Ministry said in a statement on Wednesday.

Rajnath Singh

At present, the vigilance function of the COAS is through multiple agencies and there is no single-point interface.

"An independent vigilance cell will be made functional under the COAS. Accordingly, ADG [Vigilance] will be placed directly under the COAS for this purpose. It will have three Colonel-level officers [one each from the Army, the Air Force and the Navy]. This will be done within the existing posts at the AHQ," the statement said.

On human rights, the Ministry said that to give high priority to rights convention and values, it had been decided to set up a special human rights section headed by an ADG (Major General rank officer) directly under the VCOAS and it would be the "nodal point to examine any HR violation reports".

Further, to enhance transparency and ensure the best of investigative expertise available to the section, a police officer of SSP/SP rank would be taken on deputation, the statement said.

The third measure would see a trimming down of the officer strength in the AHQ and 206 officers would be posted out to field formations and units.

Ajit Doval meets Russian counterpart

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Weeks before Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Russia, National Security Adviser Ajit Doval visited Moscow on Wednesday and held talks with his counterpart Nikolai Patrushev, who is the secretary of the Russian National Security Council. Both Mr. Doval and Mr. Patrushev discussed Mr. Modi's visit to Vladivostok in September for the Eastern Economic Forum.

This is the first high-level visit from the Indian side to Russia since the August 5 decision on Kashmir.

Missing viewpoints in Kashmir newspapers

Dailies come out without editorials

PEERZADA ASHIQ
SRINAGAR

Editorials are vanishing from dozens of Kashmir dailies, an indication of the pulls and pressures the media face after the Centre's decision to revoke Jammu & Kashmir's special status on August 5.

Prominent dailies such as *Greater Kashmir* and *Kashmir Observer* resumed publishing on August 17, after an unusual six-day holiday on the occasion of Id, but without the editorials.

Though *Greater Kashmir* resumed editorial space on Wednesday, dailies such as *Kashmir Age* are still skipping editorial pieces.

Difficult task

"Absence of communication lines and the staff's difficulty to move around are making it difficult to come up with the content on a daily basis," a *GK* staffer told *The Hindu*.

In all dailies, there is an absence of any opinions or editorials on the Centre's latest decision to suspend Article 370.

Many smaller dailies have stopped writing editorials, and instead publish syndicated columns.

However, a few newspapers such as *Rising Kashmir* and *Brighter Kashmir* have not ceased writing editorials.

"It is like walking the razor's edge to balance your editorial position. Many newspapers have decided not to publish editorials fearing the axe will fall on them in case of any imbalance. We have decided not to express our opinion," said Farooq Wani, the Editor of *Brighter Kashmir*.

कोलकाता पत्तन न्यास
KOLKATA PORT TRUST
KOLKATA DOCK SYSTEM

Tender No. : KOPT/KDS/CIV/T/2402/64 Dt. 16.08.2019. For "Thorough Refurbishment of KoPT Head Office (Main & Annexe) including interior beautification, civil, sanitary and plumbing, electrical, HVAC, fire fighting, ELV work at 15, Strand Road, Kolkata-700001". Estimated Cost : Rs. 40,32,11,690.05. Last date of submission : 26.09.2019 up to 3 P.M. For details of this tender and all other tenders below Rs. 1 crore, please visit www.mstcecommerce.com, https://eprocure.gov.in and www.kolkataporttrust.gov.in

CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF IMAGING TECHNOLOGY (C-DIT)
Thiruvananthapuram-27
Ph: 0471-2380910/912

E-TENDER NOTICE

e-tenders are invited for the **Supply of Testing Equipment – Civil**
For details and online submission of bid please visit www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
Last date of submission of bids: 02.09.2019, **03.00 PM.**
Tender id 2019_CDIT_295310_1
21.08.2019 Registrar, C-DIT

CHANDIGARH INDUSTRIAL & TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-tenders are invited for allotment of Contract for ferrying Party Boat with terrace (1 Nos.) at Sukhna Lake, Chandigarh on revenue sharing basis.
Tender documents are available on Chandigarh Administration website http://etenders.chd.nic.in for online participation. Last date of online submission/ /uploading of e-Tenders/ e-bids is 18.09.2019 upto 3:00 P.M.
M.D reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.
CIN: U45202CH1974SGC003415 **CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER**
Regd Office: SCO – 121-122, Sector 17-B, Chandigarh (U.T.) – 160017 (India)
Phone No. Phone No. 0172 – 4647925, 4647931, Fax No. 0172-4644441
Email: info@citcochandigarh.com, Website: www.citcochandigarh.com

भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

E-TENDER NOTICE
Tender ID: 2019_AAI_28746_1

Airports Authority of India invites Item Rate Tenders through E-Tendering portal by Joint General Manager (E-E)-I on behalf of Chairman, AAI from Power Generation Companies / Independent Power Producers / Power Plant Developers / Captive Power Producers for the work of **"Supply of Electric Power from Renewable Energy Resources Plants owned by Firm / Individual through Open Access for Chennai Airport**. Period of completion **36 (Thirty Six) Months.** Last date and time of submission of e-bid document is **10.09.2019 @ 1800 hrs.** For detailed information log on to CPP e-procurement portal reference **https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app** or **www.aai.aero** Further clarification / corrigendum, if any, will be notified through e-procurement portal at **https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app**

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Commissionerate of Agriculture
Seshadri Road, Bangalore - 560 001.

No.: DDA(FM&MI)/FM RFP/A3 Onwards/2019-20 **Date : 20-08-2019**

SHORT TERM REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTIFICATION

Sub.: Reg. Inviting Short Term Request for Proposal for Empanelment of Manufactures / OEM / Importers / MoU Holders for supply of Farm Machineries and Agro Processing Units under Departmental subsidy Programmes and CHSC Centers for the year 2019-20 reg.

Ref. : Request for Proposal Notification No.: DDA(FM&MI)/FM RFP/A3 Onwards / 2019-20, Dt. : 16-08-2019.

With respect to above and reference, the Department of Agriculture invites 30 days Short Term Request for Proposals (RFP) from Manufacturers / OEM / Importers / MoU Holders for Supply of Farm Machineries and Agro Processing Units to Farmers under Departmental Subsidy Programmes and CHSC Centers for the year 2019-20. The interested Manufacturers / OEM / Importers / MoU Holders who are interested to participate in this RFP can submit their proposals through e-Procurement platform **(https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in)**

The interested Manufacturers / OEM / Importers / MoU Holders can download the tender documents through e-Procurement free of cost by payment of applicable e-Procurement processing fees and the EMD amount as fixed by the Department. **Applications for Short Term RFP can be downloaded from the Website : https://eproc.Karnataka.gov.in from 21-08-2019 to 19-09-2019. The Last date for submission of proposals in e-Procurement platform is 19-09-2019, 4.30 pm. The Technical Bids will be opened on 23-09-2019 at 12.00 am at Samruddi VC Hall, Commissionerate of Agriculture, Seshadri Road, Bengaluru - 560 001.**

The Hard copies (Physical Deposition) of the Technical and Financial Bid along with other relevant documents uploaded in the e-Procurement portal will be received at the Office of the Deputy Director of Agriculture (Farm Mechanization & Micro Irrigation), Department of Agriculture, Seshadri Road, Bangalore - 560 001 till 4.30 p.m. on or before 20-09-2019.

The Interest Manufacturers / OEM / Importers / MoU Holders have to register at the **Centre for e-Governance, 1st Floor, M.S. Building, Bangalore - 560 001** and obtain the DSC key or e-token **(Helpdesk : 98801 77633 / 080-22485867 / 080-22485927).**

Note : e-Procurement processing fee is non-refundable and Tender documents are non transferable.

Sd/-
Director of Agriculture and Tender Inviting Authority

DIPR/DDU/RO No.1033/2019-20

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Commissionerate of Agriculture, Seshadri Road, Bangalore - 560 001.

No.: DDA(FM&MI)/FM RFP/A12, B1, E8 & F3/2019-20 **Date : 19-08-2019**

AMENDMENT TO SHORT TERM REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTIFICATION

Sub.: Reg. Inviting Short Term Request for Proposal for Empanelment of Manufactures / OEM / Importers / MoU Holders for supply of Laser Guided Land Leveler, Rice Transplanter, Reaper / Reaper Binder and Baler under Departmental subsidy Programmes and CHSC Centers for the year 2019-20 reg.

Ref. : Request for Proposal Notification No.: DDA(FM&MI)/FM RFP/A12, B1, E8 & F3/2019-20, Dt. : 08-08-2019.

With respect to above subject and reference, the Department of Agriculture had invited 30 days Short Term Request for Proposals (RFP) from Manufacturers / OEM / Importers / MoU Holders for Supply of Laser Guided Land Leveler, Rice Transplanter, Reaper / Reaper Binder and Baler to farmers under Departmental Subsidy Programmes and CHSC Centers for the year 2019-20 in e-Procurement platform from **08-08-2019 to 06-09-2019.** Due to maintenance in e-Procurement portal between **01-09-2019 to 17-09-2019,** the said short term Request for proposal could not be floated. Hence, following Amendment is being issued with respect to Key Dates of the afore said RFP :

Sl.No.	Item	Present Date	Revised Dates	Time
a.	RFP Published Date	08-08-209	21-08-2019	11.30 am
b.	Bid Submission End Date	06-09-2019	19-09-2019	4.30 pm
c.	Physical Deposition of Bids End Date	07-09-2019	20-09-2019	4.30 pm
d.	Technical Bid Opening Start (Online)	11-09-2019	23-09-2019	11.00 am

Sd/-
Director of Agriculture and Tender Inviting Authority

DIPR/DDU/RO No.1034/2019-20

Government of Karnataka
Department of Mines & Geology
No. 49, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru-560 001.
Tel No: 080-22269632-33, Fax No: 080-22341135, e-Mail: **dir-mines@karnataka.gov.in**
No.: DMG-17012/1/2018/2019-20 Date: 20.08.2019

NOTIFICATION AND NOTICE INVITING TENDER

"Invitation of bids for grant of Mining Lease for Iron Ore Mine"

In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 10(B) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and in accordance with the Minerals (Evidence of Mineral Contents) Rules, 2015 and the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 and Mineral (Auction) Amendment Rules, 2017 notified thereunder, the Government of Karnataka has identified one iron ore mine for electronic auction for grant of Mining Lease.

Any person, firm, company including Public Sector Undertaking who satisfies the eligibility criteria can participate in the auction. The State Government invites tender for the below listed mine.

List of Mines for Auction

Sl. No.	Name of the Block	Present ML No.	Concession Area in Ha.	Estimated resource in MMT
1	Donimalai Mine *(Earlier held by NMDC)*	M L No 2396	597.54	142.258

Technical and Financial Bids for the above listed mine is invited online. Apart from Technical Bids, which are to be submitted online, bidders will also have to submit duly executed original physical copies of their Technical Bids to the Tender Inviting Authority i.e. the Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Karnataka.

Eligibility conditions, terms and conditions, date and time for participating in the electronic auction are provided in the Tender Document. Tender Documents, notifications, updates and other details for the e-auction process shall be available in electronic form only at MSTC Limited **(https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mlcl/index.jsp).**

Interested and eligible bidders can register themselves at the above website. On successful registration, bidders will obtain login ID and password, which are necessary for participation in the e-auction process. Model Tender Document and summary of the mines shall be available free of cost at the website of MSTC Limited **(https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mlcl/index.jsp).** For participating in the bid process, the registered bidders will have to purchase mine specific tender document from the website of the MSTC Ltd., by payment of **Rs 5,00,000/-** (Rs.Five Lakhs Only) + GST for the mine specific Tender Document.

The sale of tender document shall commence from **26th August 2019.** Last date for sale of tender document at the website of MSTC Ltd is **14th October 2019.** Last date for submission of Technical Bid plus the Initial Price Offer at the website of MSTC Ltd., is on or prior to **17:00 hours IST on 28th October 2019.** Physical copy of the Technical Bid must reach the Tender Inviting Authority i.e., the Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Karnataka on or prior to **17:00 hours IST on 28th October 2019.**

Sd/-
DIRECTOR

KARNATAKA STATE DRUG LOGISTICS AND WAREHOUSING SOCIETY (R)
No.1, Dr. Siddhaiah Puranik Road, KHB Colony, Magadi Road, Bangalore - 560 079. Ph: +91-80-23283218 Fax: +91-80-23281477
e-mail: ad.kdlws@gmail.com

No: KDL/EQPT/Re-TND/34/2019-20 **Date: 21/08/2019**

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Ref: 1. Tender Notification No. KDL/EQPT/Re-TND/34/2019-20, IND-616 dated: 21/08/2019.

Nation wide Tender is invited through **e-Tendering system** under KTPP Act 1999 and Rules 2000 for the following tenders:

1. Tender for Design, Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Modular Operation Theaters, KDL/EQPT/Re-TND/34/2018-19_IND-616 under DHS budget.

The tenderers who have registered under e-Procurement department may participate through e-tendering system. Details regarding specification, EMD, Terms and Conditions and other information is available in the Tender Document, which can be downloaded from the website **https://eproc. karnataka. gov.in** from **21/08/2019.** The eligible tenderers shall submit their e-tenders under e-procurement platform for above mentioned tenders. Further information if any may be obtained from this office.

Sd/-
Additional Director, KSDLWS.

CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

The Executive Engineer, AIIMS Bhopal Project Division, CPWD, Bhopal (bpleeabpd@cpwd.gov.in) on behalf of President of India invites online Item Rate bids from the eligible Consultants/ Architectural Firms in Two Bid system for the following work:
Name of Work: Construction of new office building for Income Tax Department (B+S+5) at Plot number 47, Arera Hills Bhopal. SH: Comprehensive integrated Consultancy work comprising architectural design, structural design, preparation of detailed estimate and draft NIT, services design for (Civil and E&M Services), Interior design, supervision during execution period and obtaining 5 star GRIHA Rating for the work. **NIT No. :** 03/PM/BPC/2019-20 **Earnest Money:-** ₹2,74,000/- **Period of completion:** 24 Months **Last date time of submission/opening of technical bid:-** 04/09/2019; 15:00/15:30 Hrs.
The bid forms and other details can be seen and downloaded from the website: www.tenderwizard.com/CPWD or www.cpwd.gov.in or www.eprocure.gov.in.

The Italian game

After the coalition government of the 5-Star Movement and the League fell apart, President Sergio Mattarella has begun talks with political parties to explore the possibility of another coalition government

WHAT HAPPENED

- League leader Matteo Salvini withdrew support to the coalition government led by **Giuseppe Conte** in early August and filed a no-confidence motion against it
- He has also called for snap elections
- Prime Minister Conte announced his resignation on August 20, and blamed Salvini for the collapse of the government

Supporters of the 5-Star Movement protesting against Matteo Salvini in front of the Senate in Rome on Tuesday • AFP

LIKELY SCENARIOS

PRESIDENT MATTARELLA WIELDS IMPORTANT POWERS, INCLUDING THE ABILITY TO DISSOLVE PARLIAMENT, CALL ELECTIONS AND PICK PRIME MINISTERS. BUT HE WILL TAKE A CALL BASED ON TALKS WITH PARTIES

1 A new alliance between the 5-Star Movement and the centrist Democratic Party (PD)

- It would torpedo **Salvini's** plan to force elections and become Prime Minister

2 Romano Prodi, the former Premier and ex-President of the European Commission, has proposed a unity government involving 5-Star, the PD and Silvio Berlusconi's Forza Italia

- This would effectively bring together the main parties in a coalition against Salvini, who is highly critical of EU

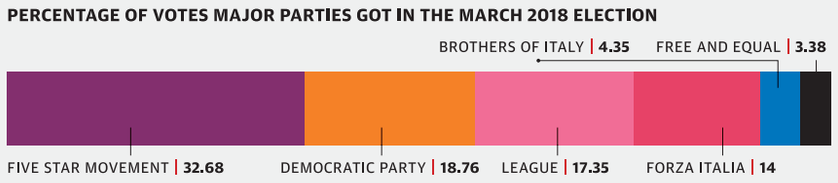
3 If Mattarella believes no stable majority exists to govern, he may decide to call a snap election, possibly at the end of October

- This would grant Salvini his wish, with polls suggesting that his League party and right-wing allies could win
- Salvini could be crowned Prime Minister, with the League joining hands with the anti-immigration, anti-LGBT Brothers of Italy, and Forza Italia

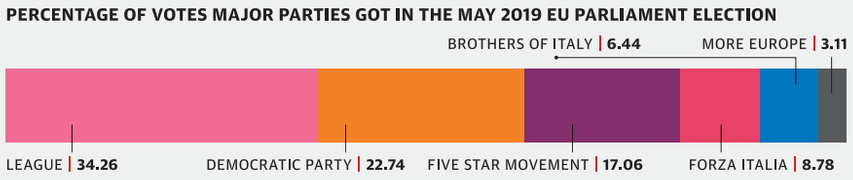
4 Alternatively, Mattarella could decide to appoint a new caretaker administration

- This government of technocrats will manage day-to-day affairs ahead of a new election, probably next year
- This would allow it to pass next year's budget to avoid an automatic rise in value-added tax that would hit the least well-off the hardest

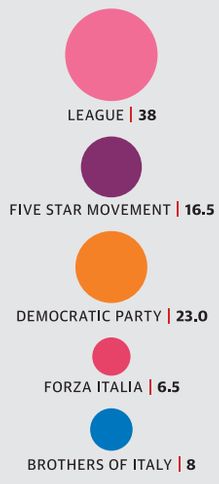
PERCENTAGE OF VOTES MAJOR PARTIES GOT IN THE MARCH 2018 ELECTION



PERCENTAGE OF VOTES MAJOR PARTIES GOT IN THE MAY 2019 EU PARLIAMENT ELECTION



Most opinion polls suggest that the League will become the single largest party if elections are held now



(NOTO POLLS, AS ON AUGUST 9)

SOURCE: AFP

Trump snubs Denmark over Greenland

U.S. President cancels a planned visit to Copenhagen after his idea to buy Greenland was rebuffed

REUTERS
COPENHAGEN

Danes voiced shock and disbelief on Wednesday at U.S. President Donald Trump's cancellation of a visit to Denmark after his idea to buy Greenland was rebuffed, although Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen said she believed relations would not be affected.

Mr. Trump's proposal at first elicited incredulity and humour from politicians in Denmark, a NATO ally of the U.S., with former Premier Lars Lokke Rasmussen saying: "It must be an April Fool's Day joke."

But the mood turned to bewilderment when Mr. Trump called off the September 2-3 visit after Ms. Frederiksen called his idea of the U.S. purchasing Greenland, an autonomous Danish territory rich in natural resources, "absurd".

Ms. Frederiksen, a centre-left Social Democrat, said she learned of Mr. Trump's decision "with regret and surprise", given Denmark's strong relations with Washington, but repeated her opposition to any Greenland transaction.

In shock: Denmark's PM Mette Frederiksen speaking to reporters in Copenhagen on Wednesday. • AP

She stressed that Greenland's Premier Kim Kielsen had ruled out selling off the territory and "I obviously agree with him".

But Ms. Frederiksen said the U.S. remained one of Denmark's closest allies. "I don't think the cancelling of this state visit should affect any decisions we make..."

Mr. Trump's decision elicited condemnation, outrage and mockery alike among Danish opposition leaders and the public.

"So (Trump) has cancelled his visit to Denmark because there was no interest in discussing selling Greenland. Is this some sort of joke? Deeply insulting to the people of Greenland and Denmark," tweeted former Premier Helle Thorning Schmidt.

"Total chaos with @realDonaldTrump and cancellation of state visit to Denmark. It has gone from a big opportunity for strengthened dialogue between allies to a diplomatic crisis," said ex-Foreign Minister Kristian Jensen of the Liberal Party.

'Not for sale'

Greenland, which is gaining attention from world powers, including China, Russia and the U.S., due to its strategic location and mineral wealth, is self-governing but underdeveloped and relies on Denmark for economic support.

"Everyone should know Greenland is not for sale," Mr. Jensen said of the world's largest island, where the U.S. has a military presence at the Thule Air Base under a U.S.-Danish treaty dating to 1951.

"(Trump's cancellation) is very, very shocking, when it is about a very close ally and a good friend," said Soren Espersen of the hard right Danish People's Party.

He said Mr. Trump had effectively snubbed Queen Margrethe, Denmark's head of state. Mr. Trump and U.S. First Lady Melania Trump were formally invited to Denmark by Queen Margrethe in July. "It shows why we now more than ever should consider (fellow) European Union countries as our closest allies. The man is unpredictable," said Morten Ostergaard, leader of the Danish Social Liberal Party. "Reality surpasses imagination."

Mr. Trump, whose "America First" policies have resulted in strained relations with the EU over trade and other issues, said on Sunday a U.S. purchase of Greenland would be "a large real estate deal".

Sudan's civilian-majority ruling council sworn in

General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan will lead the government

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
KHARTOUM

Sudan took further steps in its transition towards civilian rule on Wednesday with the swearing in of a new sovereign council, to be followed by the appointment of a Prime Minister.

The body replaces the Transitional Military Council (TMC) that took charge after months of deadly street protests brought down long-time ruler Omar al-Bashir in April. As a result of Wednesday's move, it was the first time that Sudan was not under full military rule since Bashir's coup d'etat in 1989.

The first steps of the transition after the mass celebrations that marked the August 17 adoption of a transitional Constitution proved difficult.

The names of the joint civilian-military sovereign council's 11 members were eventually announced late on Tuesday after differences within the opposition camp held up the process for two days. General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, who already headed the TMC, was sworn in as the chairman of the new sovereign council.

Gen. Abdel Fattah al-Burhan

Wearing his usual green beret and camouflage uniform, Gen. Burhan took the oath in a short ceremony, one hand on the Koran and the other holding a military baton under his arm.

He will be Sudan's head of state for the first 21 months of the 39-month transition period, until a civilian takes over for the remainder.

New Prime Minister

The council's 10 other members were sworn shortly afterwards and Abdalla Hamdok, who was chosen by the opposition last week to be Prime Minister, was to be formally appointed later on Wednesday. The council includes two women, including a member of Sudan's Christian minority, and it will oversee the formation of a government and of a legislative body.

The inauguration of the civilian-dominated ruling council, which held its first meeting in the afternoon, was widely welcomed but some Khartoum residents warned they would keep their new rulers in check.

ELSEWHERE

Cardinal Pell loses child sex abuse appeal

MELBOURNE

Disgraced Cardinal George Pell lost his appeal against child sex abuse convictions on Wednesday, bringing relief to victims who fought to bring one of the Catholic Church's most powerful men to justice. AFP

Merkel gives Britain 30 days for Brexit solution

BERLIN

German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Wednesday gave Britain 30 days to find a solution to the Irish border backstop as part of Brexit. Prime Minister Boris Johnson said there was ample scope for a last-minute deal. REUTERS

Venezuelan officials reached out to U.S.: Bolton

They discussed Maduro's exit and polls

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
WASHINGTON

Venezuelan officials reached out to the U.S. behind President Nicolas Maduro's back solely to discuss his exit from power and free elections, National Security Advisor John Bolton said on Wednesday.

Mr. Bolton's comment came after Mr. Maduro said he had authorised the contacts with high level U.S. officials, casting them as a long-standing initiative that he was aware of and had approved.

Countering in a tweet, Mr. Bolton said: "The only items discussed by those who are reaching out behind Maduro's back are his departure and free and fair elections."

Nicolas Maduro

Mr. Trump told reporters at the White House on Tuesday that the U.S. was in discussion with Venezuelan officials "at a very high level." "We are in touch. We're talking to various representatives of Venezuela," he said.

Trump says Jewish Democratic voters display 'great disloyalty'

Congresswomen Omar, Tlaib had called for a 'boycott of Israel'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump said on Tuesday that Jewish Americans who vote for Democrats display "either a total lack of knowledge or great disloyalty," sparking accusations that he is promoting and politicizing anti-Semitism.

His comments, which drew fierce rebuke from Jewish groups, came amid his ongoing dispute with Democratic Muslim Congresswomen Ilhan Omar of Minnesota and Rashida Tlaib of Michigan, both of whom support a boycott of the Jewish state for its treatment of the Palestinians.

Donald Trump

"Five years ago, the concept of even talking about this – even three years ago – of cutting off aid to Israel because of two people that hate Israel and hate Jewish people – I can't believe we're even having this conversation. Where has the Democratic party gone?" Mr. Trump told reporters in the Oval Office. "I think any Jewish people that vote for a Democrat, I think it shows either a total lack of knowledge or great disloyalty."

Israel last week barred Ms. Omar and Ms. Tlaib from entry on the grounds that they support the boycott against the country, and after Mr. Trump urged the Jewish state to block the two.

Mr. Trump's comments prompted condemnation from Jewish groups, which charged him with anti-Semitism for questioning their loyalty.

China to target U.S. firms over F-16 sale to Taiwan

It slams 'interference in our affairs'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BEIJING

China on Wednesday blasted a huge planned U.S. arms shipment to self-ruled Taiwan and threatened to sanction firms involved in the sale of F-16 fighter jets.

The U.S. State Department on Tuesday approved the transfer of 66 Lockheed Martin-built F-16 fighter jets to Taiwan in a $8 billion deal, following another huge military hardware sale agreed just last month.

The deals come as ties between Washington and Beijing are already strained by a punitive multi-billion dollar trade war.

"China will take all necessary measures to safeguard our interests including imposing sanctions on the U.S. companies participating in this arms sale to Taiwan," Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang told a news briefing.

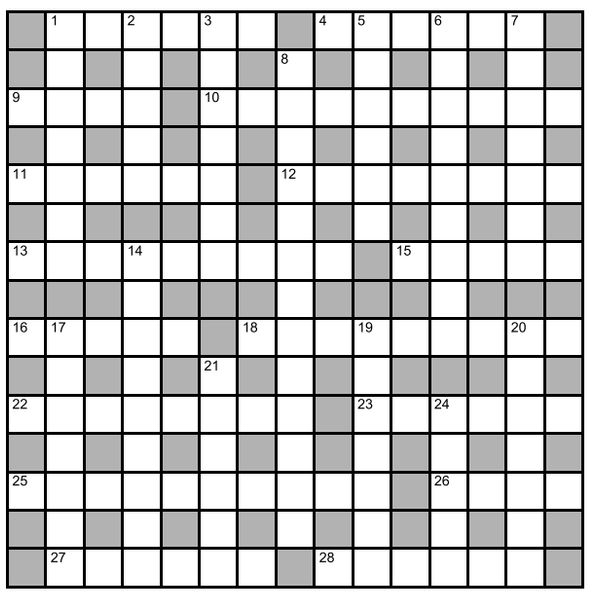
The sale "is a serious interference in our internal affairs and undermines our sovereignty and security interests", he said.

China views Taiwan as part of its territory and has vowed to one day seize it, by force if necessary.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said in a statement on Tuesday that President Donald Trump had approved the proposed sale after Congress was notified last week.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12711

(set by Anon)



ACROSS

1 Leader will let lie (6)
4 Rare alarm overwhelms Conservative (6)
9 Starts assembling steel in Australian continent (4)
10 Promote one gallery in simplistic surroundings (10)
11 Priest holds new weapon (6)
12 Mango oil fabricated in Asian country (8)
13 Uninitiated, unreserved, unorthodox clergymen (9)
15 Wood left in fish (5)
16 Fat old boy to see, perhaps (5)
18 Squats about, Mary Jane first plants (9)
22 Confused bakers in North American state (8)
23 Flies an irrational number of bundles (6)
25 Bagmen clan cook dessert (10)
26 Waitress amid confusion (4)
27 Sweats, prays, at last, beheads English rulers (6)
28 Remove regular cleg from Italian dishes with Yoga postures (6)

DOWN

1 Loss was almost on platform (8)
2 Train student to make a living (5)
3 Crime of guard (7)
5 Dependency on large intestine's source of yeast (6)
6 Share beer on principle (9)
7 Guards initially missing records (7)
8 Eccentric, our ad-man hacks great Indonesian leader (6,7)
14 Guarded temple in boundary (9)
17 Tools for erstwhile British band, we hear (7)
19 First off, captain from South has smoked herrings (7)
20 Takes ends off of nuts and bolts (7)
21 Starting off memoirs about compound (6)
24 Well-formed endless Manila lagoon (5)

SUDOKU

		3						6
			1					
4	6	7		3			5	
				4	5		2	
	7	4				6	9	
	5		7	8				
	9			1		2	8	3
					3			
7						1		

No.SS4453 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

Solution to puzzle 12710

P	L	A	Y	B	A	C	K		A	C	U	M	E	N
H		M		L		R				O		O		O
O	P	E	R	A	T	O	R		T	R	I	C	O	T
E		R		Z		W		T		A		H		A
B	R	I	N	E		B	R	I	L	L	I	A	N	T
E		C				A		T		R				I
	J	A	G	U	A	R		O	R	E	G	A	N	O
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A				V		X		H				P		H
T	A	L	K	A	T	I	V	E		L	A	T	T	E
I		I		L		T		Q		A		N		R
F	I	L	T	E	R		B	U	T	Y	L	E	N	E
I		L		N				E		E		S		T
C	R	E	A	T	E		E	S	P	R	E	S	S	O

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

3	7	8	5	1	6	2	4	9
1	2	4	3	9	7	6	5	8
6	5	9	4	2	8	7	1	3
2	4	3	1	7	9	8	6	5
7	8	6	2	5	3	1	9	4
9	1	5	6	8	4	3	2	7
4	3	1	8	6	5	9	7	2
8	6	7	9	4	2	5	3	1
5	9	2	7	3	1	4	8	6

FAITH

Message of Krishna

Krishna's message to the Gopis conveyed through Uddhava is significant as the most valuable instruction on the essence of true devotion, pointed out Sri Dushyanth Sridhar in a discourse. It shows that the Lord is a Jagadguru who reaches out to His devotees to impart the highest jnana, whatever may be their level of spiritual attainment. Such is His penchant for His bhaktas that an inexplicable bond is established with them who are dear to Him at all times.

Devotion is something that gradually attains transcendental proportions when the jivatma is steeped in the Paramatma alone. Generally bhakti as practised by many is for personal betterment. It is no doubt important as the starting point for beginners. Krishna classifies the bhaktas who seek Him on the basis of what they expect from Him. There is the 'aarthi,' who seeks relief from worldly stress and strain; then there is the 'arthaarthi,' who wishes to gain wealth; the jignyasu is the devotee who enquires into esoteric matter; but the jnani represents the essence of true devotion for he seeks God for His sake alone. Such devotion is rare to come by, says Krishna. This stage of attaining oneness with the Lord to the exclusion of all other distractions is the ideal to be attained. The Gopis are unlettered and know no Vedanta; they are not aware of the paths of jnana and vairagya that are crucial to realise Him. But they are very strong in their one pointed love towards Krishna. By His grace, they are also led to renounce the ego sense that is a great hurdle to God realisation. They attain a commendable level in bhakti, one that is not easily attained even by sages engaged in austere penance. In His message, Krishna gradually leads them towards Brahma Jnana, a still greater state of realisation, when they are taught to experience Him even in His absence.

MARKET WATCH

	21-08-2019	% CHANGE
Sensex	37,060	-0.72
US Dollar	71.55	0.22
Gold	38,820	0.12
Brent oil	60.72	2.88

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	350.70	-4.25
Asian Paints	1589.15	-6.00
Axis Bank	664.70	-7.65
Bajaj Auto	2764.80	21.85
Bajaj Finserv	7145.85	-90.30
Bajaj Finance	3261.45	-32.65
Bharti Airtel	354.90	-3.15
BPCL	327.80	-14.45
Britannia Ind	2384.50	-9.00
Cipla	468.05	-10.65
Coal India	188.80	-6.50
Dr Reddys Lab	2503.00	-51.60
Eicher Motors	16000.50	104.75
GAIL (India)	122.50	-4.85
Grasim Ind	698.80	-30.45
HCL Tech	1070.15	-13.85
HDFC	2066.90	-23.20
HDFC Bank	2225.85	5.25
Hero MotoCorp	2714.25	45.00
Hindalco	177.05	-2.35
Hind Unilever	1850.00	6.60
Indiabulls HFL	483.55	-37.85
ICICI Bank	412.05	-4.85
IndusInd Bank	1367.20	-37.65
Bharti Infratel	248.25	-7.30
Infosys	799.45	6.70
Indian OilCorp	121.05	-3.15
ITC	241.45	-5.05
JSW Steel	219.00	-5.85
Kotak Bank	1505.75	0.65
L&T	1310.65	-31.85
M&M	520.90	-6.90
Maruti Suzuki	6228.90	37.95
NTPC	117.90	-0.05
ONGC	121.20	-3.85
PowerGrid Corp	204.90	-1.15
Reliance Ind	1270.95	-5.00
State Bank	277.40	-6.30
Sun Pharma	417.00	-3.90
Tata Motors	112.40	-11.45
Tata Steel	343.00	-15.25
TCS	2186.20	-0.55
Tech Mahindra	672.80	3.90
Titan	1065.30	-27.05
UltraTech Cement	3921.40	-111.65
UPL	535.90	-4.00
Vedanta	139.95	-2.45
Wipro	252.40	-0.90
YES Bank	65.40	-5.80
Zee Entertainment	344.20	-6.65

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on August 21

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	71.36	71.68
Euro	79.21	79.57
British Pound	86.65	87.04
Japanese Yen (100)	67.04	67.34
Chinese Yuan	10.10	10.15
Swiss Franc	72.75	73.08
Singapore Dollar	51.60	51.84
Canadian Dollar	53.77	54.01
Malaysian Ringitt	17.07	17.17

Source:Indian Bank

BULLION RATES CHENNAI

August 21 rates in rupees with previous rates in parentheses

Retail Silver (1g)	48.1	(48.2)
22 ct gold (1 g)	3601	(3604)

SEBI simplifies norms for foreign investors

Scraps broad-based criteria, eases Know-Your-Customer rules; FPIs had sold shares worth over ₹22,000 cr. in July, August

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

At a time when foreign investors have been selling Indian shares in huge quantum, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has simplified the compliance and operational requirements for foreign portfolio investors (FPIs), to make the regulatory framework more investor friendly.

The SEBI board, which met here on Wednesday, decided to do away with the requirement that every FPI should have at least 20 investors – known as broad-based in regulatory parlance – while simplifying the KYC (or Know-Your-Customer) document requirement for overseas investors.

"The key focus of the proposed regulations is to simplify and rationalise the existing regulatory framework for foreign portfolio investors in terms of easing the operational constraints and compliance requirements," stated a SEBI release.

SEBI will examine various issues on 35% minimum public shareholding plan, says Chairman Ajay Tyagi. • SUPREET SAPKAL

The regulator has also allowed central banks of countries that are not members of Bank for International Settlement (BIS) to register as FPIs in India since, as per SEBI, such entities are "relatively long term, low risk investors directly/indirectly managed by the government". FPIs have cumulatively sold shares worth over ₹22,000 crore in July and August.

'Much-needed boost'

"This is a much-needed boost to the FPI route, which had been languishing on account of multiple issues in the past few months," said Shruti Rajan, partner, Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas.

"Relaxing the broad-based criteria will open up the FPI route to a whole new category of entities that were unable to meet the 20-investor test. The most interesting part... lies in the references made to rationalisation of offshore derivative instruments . This has historically been a matter of debate within the industry and it will be interesting to see what changes are finally implemented," she added.

SEBI has expressed concerns over the recent proposal of the government to increase the minimum threshold of public holding in listed companies from the current 25% to 35%.

"... there are certain aspects which need to be further examined as to what the right level to mandate is," SEBI Chairman Ajay Tyagi told the media, post the board meeting. He highlighted the fact that a significant number of listed public sector undertakings are yet to comply with the 25% public holding norm and have been given time till August 2020 to comply and also that the primary market was not doing well currently.

"All these issues need consideration and examination, so time being we will examine all those issues," added Mr. Tyagi. The regulator has amended the Prohibition of Insider Trading Regulations to include a clause to reward whistle-blowers up to ₹1 crore if the information leads to a disgorgement order of at least ₹1 crore.

The regulator has also brought in clauses to protect the informant from victimisation in the form of termination, suspension or demotion, among other things.

The SEBI said it had gathered details about alleged financial irregularities at CG Power and Industrial Solutions and was looking into the matter. "We have obtained some details of what is going on with them. We will look into it," Mr. Tyagi said.

(With PTI inputs)

Got enquiry from Coffee Day, says ITC

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

ITC Ltd. said that while it had 'received an enquiry from Coffee Day Enterprises', there was no progress in the matter.

"We write to advise that the company, on an ongoing basis, receives enquiries from market participants which are suitably evaluated. One such enquiry was also received from an intermediary on Cafe Coffee Day.

"However, no progress has been made in the matter," the company said in a regulatory filing.

The filing came after the bourses sought clarification about reports on ITC acquiring a stake in CCD.

Coffee Day Enterprises, too, denied the reports.

EV landscape in India very ambiguous: BMW India CEO

Automaker to wait for clarity on market demand

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

There is still considerable ambiguity around electric vehicles (EVs) in India at the moment, Rudratej Singh, president and chief executive officer, BMW Group India, said on Wednesday.

If there is clarity about the market demand, then BMW would be happy to enter the e-vehicle space, he added.

"The whole landscape on electric [vehicles] is very ambiguous right now," Mr. Singh said, speaking at the launch of the new BMW 3 Series sedans. "Our principles are very clear. If the customers want it and we can give them the satisfaction that is up to our standards, we will go wherever the customer wants.... I don't think we are clear in the direction or magnitude of the vector, if I may use an engineering term. So, we will wait and watch."

Rudratej Singh

Mr. Singh also said that though there were some pricing challenges due to high GST rates on automobiles, prices make up only one element of what a carmaker offers the customer.

'Price only one aspect'

"We need to understand the Indian psyche and work on other aspects like, say, work on unlocking value for them in the cost of ownership, the resale value..."

The new 3 Series comes with two engine options, the 330i and 320d, in three variants: Sport, Luxury Line, M Sport.

The 3 Series is priced between ₹41.40 lakh and ₹47.90 lakh (ex-showroom India).

GST rate cut on auto will be helpful: Ayukawa

Maruti Suzuki MD & CEO says reductions in the past have stimulated demand

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

It would be a welcome step if the government cuts the Goods and Services Tax rate on automobiles, Maruti Suzuki MD and CEO Kenichi Ayukawa said on Wednesday, adding that in the past, tax rate cuts by the government have worked to stimulate demand.

Mr. Ayukawa added that apart from government intervention, it was very important for companies to engage with the market and the customers in order to encourage demand.

"We are also very concerned [about the level of demand]," Mr. Ayukawa said during the launch of Maruti Suzuki's new MPV, the XL6. "Unfortunately, this fiscal year, the market has shown a more than double digit slowdown. We have to approach the customer and I expect that the new product being introduced in the market will help the market demand recover."

Maruti Suzuki MD and CEO Kenichi Ayukawa during the launch of MPV, XL6, in New Delhi on Wednesday. • KAMAL NARANG

"If you look at the history of the industry, the last time there was a slowdown, some tax deduction did help in encouraging the market," Mr. Ayukawa added. "I believe if the government decides that way, it will be very helpful."

He said there was a 'considerable increase' in the demand for premium MPVs, and the new XL6 is designed to cater to this demand.

The XL6, starting at ₹9.79 lakh, is powered by a BS-VI compliant petrol engine with a 'Progressive Smart Hybrid' technology with a lithium-ion battery.

"The Indian auto industry is undergoing a major shift," Mr. Ayukawa added. "The industry is adapting to new regulations, new technologies and new policies. And that too with all of these coming together, at the same time. Challenges in the short-term and long-term bring pressure. What we need is a strong focus on quality in all aspects of our business."

RBI allows e-mandate for cards

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Tthe Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to permit processing of e-mandate on cards for recurring transactions with additional factor authentication (AFA) during registration.

This will be applicable for transactions done using all types of cards – debit and credit cards and Prepaid Payment Instruments, including wallets. The maximum limit for such a transaction will be ₹2,000.

"While processing the first transaction in e-mandate-based recurring transaction series, AFA validation shall be performed.

"If the first transaction is being performed along with the registration of e-mandate, then AFA validation may be combined," the RBI said.

Economy needs larger push: Das

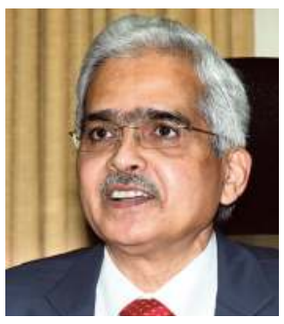
'Demand clearly slowing down, investment losing traction'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

With clear evidence of domestic demand slowing down further, with investment activity losing traction, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) governor Shaktikanta Das said supporting growth was the utmost priority of the central bank as inflation remained under control, the minutes of the August monetary policy review meeting showed.

"With headline inflation projected to remain within the target over the next one-year horizon, supporting domestic growth by further reducing interest rates needs to be given the utmost priority," Mr. Das had said.

The RBI had reduced the repo rate by an unconventional 35 basis points (bps) during the monetary policy review, and by 110 bps since February this year – bringing down the repo rate to a nine-year low of 5.4%. The RBI typically revises interest rates in multiples of 25 bps. Mr. Das noted that with global demand weakening, there is a need to 'bolster dwindling domestic demand' and support investment activity.


Shaktikanta Das

"Given the current and evolving inflation and growth scenario at this juncture, it can no longer be a business-as-usual approach. The economy needs a larger push," he said, adding that a conventional 25 bps cut would be inadequate.

"On the other hand, a 50 bps rate cut might be excessive and indicate a knee jerk reaction," he said.

Four of the six-member monetary policy committee voted for the 35 bps rate cut while two members, Pami Dua and Chetan Ghate, voted for a 25 bps cut. "Given the evolving growth-inflation risk picture, monetary policy should be used judiciously," Mr. Ghate said. Ms. Dua said the 100 bps cut since February was 'sufficient'. Another external member, R.H. Dholakia, said he would have liked the policy rate cut to be 40 bps but added, "I do not mind going with majority opinion of cutting the rate by 35 bps this time, and maintaining the accommodative stance."

KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LTD

REQUEST FOR VENDOR REGISTRATION

The Chief Engineer SCM, KSEBL invites **"Request for Vendor Registration"** in sealed cover from original manufacturers /Suppliers for empanelment of Vendors for a period of 3 years for manufacture /Supply, testing and delivery of 20 items .

Bid forms can be downloaded from KSEBL website from 24-07-2019 onwards. Extended Last date & time of submission of bids : 27-08-2019, 11 AM, Date & time of opening of Technical bid : 27-08-2019, 2 PM, Processing & Registration Fee : Rs.35,000+ Applicable GST 18% +Flood Cess 1%, by online payment or DD/RTGS drawn in favour of CE, SCM KSEB Ltd payable at Thiruvananthapuram, Account No. : 00000057065481482, IFS Code : SBIN0070493, Email : cescm@kseb.in, Web : www.kseb.in, Phone : 0471 2446853

PR/MC1 /F 136/Advt /2019

RITES THE INFRASTRUCTURE PEOPLE

RITES LIMITED
(Schedule 'A' Enterprise of Govt. of India) CIN No.: L74899DL1974GOI007227

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

NIT No. RITES/T&GT/KHAGARIA/MODEL/2019

Group General Manager/T&GT, RITES ltd invites online percentage rate e-bid on single packet system for the following work:
Name of Work "Topographic and Hydrographic Cross Section Survey using Photogrammetric Technique by unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV)/Drone equipped with DGNSS or similar arrangement with LIDAR in connection with Hydrological study of proposed new single BG line from Khagaria to Kusheshwar Asthan in Bihar". **Estimated Cost**: INR 1,19,51,000/-, **EMD**: INR 1,20,000 /-, **Cost of Tender documents**: INR 7000/-, **Period of completion**: 4 months and 15 days from issue date of LOA, **Last time & date of submission of bid: 11.30 Hrs. on 09.08.2019.**
The bid forms and other details can be obtained from NIC's CPPP ***https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app.***
Addendum/Corrigendum, if any, shall be hosted online only

DR. B.R. AMBEDKAR DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
9th & 10th Floor, V.V. Mini Tower, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru - 560 001.
Ph: 080-22860509, 22868870 Fax: 080-22860509, 22860396

No.ADCL/TND/228(02-07, 09-11, 13,18,20,23,25&30)/2018-19 Date: 19.08.2019

e – Tender Notification for DRILLING OF BOREWELLS

e – tenders are invited for **Drilling of 165mm inner-dia irrigation Borewells in various districts in Karnataka** on **"No Water No money basis"** on behalf of Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Development Corporation Ltd. and Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Limited.

Sl. No.	DISTRICT	PACKAGE NO	TENDER NO.	TOTAL No of borewells	TOTAL AMOUNT (Rs.in Lakhs)	EMD (Rs. in Lakhs) (1.50%)
01	BANGALORE (R)	Package-01	ADCL/2018-19/BR-01/WORK_INDENT1003	146	260.71	3.91
02	RAMANAGAR	Package-01	ADCL/2018-19/R NAGARA-01/WORK_INDENT1004	223	353.52	5.30
03	CHIKKABALLAPUR	Package-01	ADCL/2018-19/CB PURA-01/WORK_INDENT1005	249	394.74	5.92
		Package-02	ADCL/2018-19/CB PURA-02/WORK_INDENT1006	220	291.91	4.38
04	KOLAR	Package-01	ADCL/2018-19/KOLAR-01/WORK_INDENT1007	234	398.24	5.97
05	CHITRADURGA	Package-01	ADCL/2018-19/C DURGA-01/WORK_INDENT1008	310	351.69	5.28
		Package-02	ADCL/2018-19/C DURGA-02/WORK_INDENT1009	222	225.70	3.39
06	DAVANAGERE	Package-01	ADCL/2018-19/D GERE-01/WORK_INDENT1010	264	264.11	3.96
07	TUMKUR	Package-01	ADCL/2018-19/TUMKUR-01/WORK_INDENT1011	196	320.01	4.80
		Package-02	ADCL/2018-19/TUMKUR-02/WORK_INDENT1012	285	408.79	6.13
08	MYSORE	Package-01	ADCL/2018-19/MYSORE-01/WORK_INDENT1013	330	262.53	3.94
		Package-02	ADCL/2018-19/MYSORE-02/WORK_INDENT1014	285	233.46	3.50
09	MANDYA	Package-01	ADCL/2018-19/MANDYA-01/WORK_INDENT1015	383	334.14	5.01
10	CHAMARAJANGAR	Package-01	ADCL/2018-19/CR NAGAR-01/WORK_INDENT1016	219	186.43	2.80
		Package-02	ADCL/2018-19/CR NAGAR-02/WORK_INDENT1017	286	208.63	3.13
11	BELGAUM	Package-01	ADCL/2018-19/BELAGAVI-01/WORK_INDENT1018	250	287.40	4.31
		Package-02	ADCL/2018-19/BELAGAVI-02/WORK_INDENT1019	331	364.80	5.47
		Package-03	ADCL/2018-19/BELAGAVI-03/WORK_INDENT1020	252	237.71	3.57
		Package-04	ADCL/2018-19/BELAGAVI-04/WORK_INDENT1021	297	397.33	5.96
12	VIJAYAPURA	Package-01	ADCL/2018-19/V PURA-01/WORK_INDENT1030	309	266.05	3.99
		Package-02	ADCL/2018-19/V PURA-02/WORK_INDENT1023	317	318.24	4.77
13	HAVERI	Package-01	ADCL/2018-19/HAVERI-01/WORK_INDENT1024	268	226.46	3.40
14	BALLARI	Package-01	ADCL/2018-19/BELLARY-02/WORK_INDENT1031	485	343.32	5.15
		Package-02	ADCL/2018-19/BELLARY-03/WORK_INDENT1026	360	259.46	3.89
		Package-03	ADCL/2018-19/BELLARY-01/WORK_INDENT1027	457	322.55	4.84
15	BIDAR	Package-01	ADCL/2018-19/BIDAR-01/WORK_INDENT1028	223	209.16	3.14
		Package-02	ADCL/2018-19/BIDAR-02/WORK_INDENT1029	299	266.92	4.00

Please visit website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** for information on eligibility conditions, procedure for participating in the tender, terms & conditions, EMD, Number of Borewells to be drilled in each Package/district and also contact e-procurement helpdesk 080-23010900/01 and 080-38013000 for more information.

The last date for Bid Submission : **27.08.2019 upto 17.30 hours.** Technical Bid will be opened on : **30.08.2019 at 11.00 am** and Financial Bid will be opened on **: 12.09.2019 at 11.00 am** at Dr.B.R. Ambedkar Development Corporation Limited, 10th Floor, V.V. Mini Tower, Bengaluru – 560 001.

Sd/- General Manager (Dev.) & Tender Inviting Authority.

DIPR/DDU/1035/2019-20

It is time to focus on preventive care, says GE Healthcare

Firm unveils first start-up collaboration on Edison platform

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

GE Healthcare, a global provider of medical imaging, monitoring and cell/gene therapy technologies, is gearing up to bring about a change in the way healthcare is being delivered in India currently.

As a precursor, the U.S. firm has announced its first start-up collaboration programme on its Edison platform, in India.

Under this, the company will work with enterprises to develop technologies that can solve some of the toughest healthcare challenges existing today.

Nalinikanth Gollagunta, managing director, Wipro GE Healthcare, said, "The focus will be on enabling preventive healthcare, precision diagnosis and treatment in a timely and affordable manner.

> **The U.S. reported a wasted healthcare spend of more than $1 trillion**

Under this programme, GE Healthcare would collaborate with start-ups to arrive at solutions that improve patient outcomes and experience, efficiency of clinical practice and that of the healthcare facilities, reduce waste and inefficiencies, and eliminate costly and harmful errors," he said.

Erroneous prescriptions

For context, the U.S. reported a wasted healthcare spend (on account of erroneous prescriptions, wrong diagnosis, wrong treatments/therapies and unwanted surgeries) of over $1 trillion, with each year adding up $500 million to the losses.

Though, such a study is yet to be done in India, the country's wasted healthcare spend could be very huge.

Amit Phadnis, GE Officer and chief digital officer, GE Healthcare said, the healthcare industry produced massive amounts of data, and it was extremely difficult to bring this data together, convert it into meaningful insights and bring those insights to the point of care.

"We are addressing these challenges with our Edison platform and are working to accelerate the transformation of healthcare," said Mr. Phadnis.

Parle may cut 10,000 jobs on growth pangs

REUTERS
BENGALURU

Parle Products Pvt. Ltd., a leading Indian biscuit maker, might lay off up to 10,000 workers as slowing economic growth and falling demand in the rural heartland could cause production cuts, a company executive said.

A downturn in Asia's third-largest economy is denting sales of everything from cars to clothing.

A sharp drop in Parle's biscuit sales means the company may have to slash production, which may result in layoffs of 8,000-10,000 people, said Mayank Shah, category head, Parle. "The situation is so bad, that if the government doesn't intervene immediately ... we may be forced to eliminate the positions," he said.

IN BRIEF

Dr. Reddy's Vizag unit under USFDA scanner

HYDERABAD

The formulations manufacturing plant (Vizag SEZ Plant 1) of Dr. Reddy's Laboratories at Duvvada, Visakhapatnam, has been issued a Form 483 with eight observations by the USFDA. This followed an audit of the facility by the regulator, the company has said. "We have been issued a Form 483 with 8 observations... will address them comprehensively within the stipulated timeline," it said in a filing.

CSIR-CMERI developing a ₹1-lakh e-tractor

GUWAHATI

CSIR-Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI) said it is developing a small-powered, electronic tractor, which will be the cheapest in Indian market at little over ₹1 lakh. It is targeting to conduct the first trial within the next one year at its West Bengal facility. "We are looking to make a less weight product, which is efficient for farmers having smaller land parcels," CSIR-CMERI Director Harish Hirani said. PTI

OnePlus to launch smart TVs in September

NEW DELHI

Premium smartphone maker OnePlus will launch its smart TVs in September, bringing them to India before its home market in China. "OnePlus TV is set for launch in September, and it will be available in India first," its CEO Pete Lau said in a post on OnePlus forum. Noting that the company had been working on the project for the past two years, he said the company wanted to focus on one market at a time to ensure success. PTI

HPCL plans to invest ₹74,000 cr.

Company to expand petrochemical and refining capacities over five years

PIYUSH PANDEY
MUMBAI

State-owned Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) is planning to invest as much as ₹74,000 crore in expanding its refining and petrochemical capacities.

HPCL CMD Mukesh Kumar Surana, said, "A capital expenditure of about ₹74,000 crore is envisaged over the next five years for various projects."

Of the ₹74,000 crore, HPCL plans to invest ₹35,200 crore in refining, ₹21,800 in marketing, ₹5,700 crore in renewables and R&D and ₹11,500 crore across joint ventures. "The company plans to invest ₹42,000 crore from internal resources and ₹32,000 crore by way of debt. At peak debt also, our debt to equity ratio will be less than 2:1," said Mr. Surana.

Fuelling growth: Of the total investments, ₹42,000 crore will come from internal resources. ▪ GETTYIMAGES/ISTOCK

Rajasthan refinery

HPCL is executing the Rajasthan refinery and petrochemical project at a project cost of ₹43,129 crore.

"I am happy to share that HPCL Rajasthan Refinery Limited has achieved significant progress in setting up a nine MMTPA refinery-cum-petrochemical project in Rajasthan," said Mr. Surana.

The company has completed technology selection for all the 13 process units. While engineering activities are in progress, site construction activities have commenced. The project has achieved financial closure.

The company is expanding the capacity of its Visakh Refinery to 15 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA) from 8.33 MMTPA now at cost of ₹20,928 crore.

"The project includes facilities for bottom upgradation and production of BS-VI-compliant motor fuels. The capacity of the Mumbai refinery is being enhanced from 7.5 to 9.5 MMTPA with a capability to produce BS-VI motor fuels, at a cost of ₹5,060 crore. "The completion of the projects will enhance profitability of the refineries," Mr. Surana added.

Stop socialising losses: CEA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI

Chief Economic Adviser K. Subramanian on Wednesday called for a "mindset change" in the private sector by desisting from the tendency to grab profit and socialise losses and also seek sops in times of stress.

He also said it will be investment and not consumption that will help the economy grow, explaining the latter boosts an economy with a higher per capita income of say $10,000 or more. The comments come amid growing criticism from the corporate world as well as by analysts and economists outside the government about the issues plaguing the economy and sectors like the auto seeking help.

Centre to ease approval process for mining leases

Mining law to be amended

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

The Centre is planning to scrap the need for State governments to take an approval from the Centre prior to granting a mining lease to companies, Union Coal Secretary Sumanta Chaudhuri said.

Kicking off a stakeholder consultation process on coal sector issues, he said this would be among the government's initiatives to speed up operationalisation of coal mines.

"This single move, to be effected through an amendment in Parliament, will reduce the entire process by around a year," Mr. Chaudhuri said, talking to reporters on the sidelines of a FICCI meeting.

Currently, before granting a mining lease, the State Governments are required to put the proposed project, through a process called 'prior approval' under which it had to file an application with the Centre seeking its nod for a project for which clearances had been already granted.

"State-level clearances are necessary but this (prior approval) amounts to duplication and time wastage," Mr. Chaudhuri said, adding that although since 2014, about 80 allocations were auctioned or nominated for coal mining "the conversion to production has not been great.. there was need to find ways to correct it", he said.

Former Coal India Ltd. chairman P. S. Bhattacharyya said as steps are taken for import-substitution and correction of structural issues in power sector, the coal sector needs to gear up for meeting an additional demand of 400–425 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) beyond the usual growth, including commissioning of power capacities in the pipeline, that can be met by securing incremental coal production of 40 – 50 MTPA between CIL and SCCL.

Mr. Chaudhuri said that among the several measures being taken to hasten coal projects in the pipeline was allowing the sale of 25% of coal in case of allocation of specified end-use plants.

Ashish Upadhyaya Joint Secretary, Union Coal Ministry, said this would boost the profitability of the firms implementing the projects.

The government is pursuing a carrot-and-stick policy by promoting ease-of-doing business on the one-hand and strict implementation of existing rules, on the other.

"There was reluctance on the part of the allottees to go the extra mile to operationalise mines as they continue to have coal linkages," Mr. Chaudhuri noted.

He said moves was afoot to bring in more players in coal exploration, in addition to Coal Mine Planning and Design Institute Ltd.

NTPC plans to become second largest coal producer in India

Power major aims for output of over 100 MTPA

PIYUSH PANDEY
MUMBAI

State-owned NTPC plans to become India's second largest coal producer after Coal India to ensure long-term fuel security for its power plants.

Confirming the development, Gurdeep Singh, CMD, NTPC told *The Hindu*, "We plan to produce over 100 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) of coal from the 11 coal blocks allocated to us, making us India's second-largest coal producer in the coming years."

Last year, Coal India had produced 606 million tonnes of coal and had targeted a milestone of one billion tonnes by 2025.

Gurdeep Singh

NTPC had been allotted 11 coal blocks – Pakri-Barwadih, Chatti Bariatu, Kerandari, Dulanga, Talaipalli, Bhalumuda, Banai, Mandakani-B, Banhardih Kundanali-Luburi (in JV with Jammu & Kashmir State Power Development Corporation) and Badam Coal Block with geological coal reserves of more than 7.3 billion tonnes and a production potential of 113 MTPA.

"This year, we will produce 8-9 MTPA of coal and gradually scale it to over 100 MTPA in phases. Coal is something that continues to bother us. There will always be an issue with respect to coal. However, in the last quarter, we didn't lose on power generation due to coal non-availability," said Mr. Singh.

NTPC needs over 160 MTPA of coal for fuelling its 41,580-MW power capacity.

NTPC had received a supply of 176.10 million metric tonnes (MMT) of coal during FY19.

Ind Bank Housing to revive lending activities

Firm to restructure capital, recover NPAs

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

Ind Bank Housing Ltd. (IBHL) is 'taking efforts' to revive its lending operations and has prepared a road map in this direction, a top official wrote in the firm's 28th annual report.

The road map included restructuring capital, recovering non-performing assets (NPA) and restarting lending operations, wrote Sesha Sai PLVK, managing director, IBHL. IBHL had stopped lending activities in 2000 due to negative net worth and the lack of working capital. Currently, the firm has accumulated losses running to ₹137.58 crore while the capital adequacy ratio was in the negative.

Regarding capital restructuring, Mr. Sai said in the report that the entire outstanding term loan of ₹129 crore would be converted into non-cumulative, compulsorily convertible preference shares for a period of 20 years.

The capital restructuring proposal was approved by the firm's promoter and lender. Indian Bank holds 51% in the housing finance subsidiary followed by HUDCO with 25%. The annual report noted that the Securities and Exchange Board of India had given its approval for the Real Estate Investment Trust platform, which would help create a ₹1.25 trillion opportunity in the Indian market over time.

ENTERPRISE CONNECT

73rd Independence Day celebrations at PSPCL Head quarters

PSPCL has celebrated 73th Independence Day with great enthusiasm and zeal here today. CMD PSPCL Er. Baldev Singh Sran unfurled National Flag on this eve at PSPCL head quarters. Sh.R.P.Pandove Director Admin, Er.O.P.Garg Director Commercial, Er. N. K. Sharma, Director Distribution, Sh. Jatinder Garg Director Finance and Sh. S. K. Puri Director Generation along with their wives attended the celebrations and release colourful balloons on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion Er. Baldev Singh Sran said that the real tribute to the freedom fighters who have sacrificed their lives for freedom of India, would be to perform our duties honestly and with utmost sincerity.

Expressing full satisfaction with the great achievements and implementation of few schemes of the PSPCL, CMD appreciated the efforts of directors ,officers and employees for the achievements and proper implementation of various schemes.

Bhakra Dam saves downstream areas by regulating incoming flood and restricting releases from spillway gates

Water level in reservoir of Bhakra Dam was 1681 feet at 10.00 am on 19.08.2019 against the permissible storage level of 1680 feet. Considering the available forecast from the India Meteorological Department in the entire catchment area of the river Satluj from Tibet up to the dam site on 16.08.2019, Bhakra Beas Management Board took the decision to release about 538 cumec (19000 cusec) through spillway of the dam in addition to the releases from turbines from 16.08.2019, in order to minimise synchronisation of water flow generated in the rivulets downstream of the dam.

BBMB has stopped generation of power from Pong Dam. Thus, water release of 10,000 cusec for generation in Pong dam has also been stopped to minimize the flooding at Harike barrage.

The position of water in Bhakra dam is being monitored continuously and is under control. All necessary steps are being taken for the safety of the Dam as well as for release of minimum possible water through spillway, downstream of the dam.

NFL Contributed Rs. 1.5 crore for Assam Flood Relief

NFL has contributed an amount of Rs. 1.5 crore for flood affected people of Assam. Sh. Manoj Mishra, C&MD NFL presented the cheque of Rs. 1.5 crore to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal towards the Chief Minister's Relief Fund today in New Delhi. NFL directors, senior officials, and representative of employees were also present on the occasion.

Three IGNTU Students Selected for Research in South Korea

Three students from Biotechnology Department in Indira Gandhi National Tribal University have been selected by two prominent South Korean Universities to pursue research with fellowship. Their broad area for research will be radiation science which is emerging as an important branch of Atomic Energy. The IGNTU has congratulated all the selected students for their remarkable achievement.

Tata Power-DDL Launches 'Meri Paathshala'

With an aim to support quality education to the underprivileged children in its distribution area of North Delhi, Tata Power-DDL has launched 'Meri Paathshala' programme in collaboration with the Department of Education, Government of Delhi. The programme was inaugurated by Shri Manish Sisodia, Hon'ble Deputy CM & Minister of Education, Govt. NCT of Delhi in the presence of Shri Mohinder Goyal, Hon'ble MLA (Rithala); Mr. Sandeep Kumar, IAS, Secretary Education, Govt. of NCT of Delhi; Mr. Sanjay Banga, CEO, TATA Power-DDL and other senior officials from the Department of Education and Tata Power-DDL at the Govt. Sarvodaya Co-Ed Vidyalaya, Sector-6, Rohini, Delhi.

Swachhta Pakhwada 2019' at NHPC

NHPC, India's premier hydro power company is organizing 'Swachhta Pakhwada 2019' from 16th August 2019 to 31st August 2019 as per guidelines issued by the Government of India. The 'Swachhta Pledge' for 'Swachhta Pakhwada 2019' was administered to the employees by Shri Balraj Joshi, Chairman and Managing Director, NHPC on 20th August 2019. Shri Ratish Kumar, Director (Projects), Shri M.K. Mittal, Director (Finance), Shri Janardan Choudhary, Director (Technical) and Dr. Sunita Singh, Chief Vigilance Officer were also present on the occasion.

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Gurgaon. (Hr.) 122001

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

Applications are invited for filling up three Group 'D' posts i.e. two posts of Peon and one post of Process Serveron temporary basis in pay scale as per Haryana Government for Group D/Class IV employees. As per Govt. instructions, the conditions for the Group 'D' employee i.e. two posts of Peon and One post of Process Server will be remained as under:-

1. Minimum educational qualification will be Matriculation from Recognized Board with Hindi/Sanskrit and 'English.
2. Minimum age 18 years and maximum upto 42 years or as per Haryana Govt. Rules.
3. Self-attested copies regarding age proof, educational qualifications, experience and two passport size photographs be sent with application.
4. Original Certificates regarding age proof, educational qualification, experience should be produced at the time of interview.
5. No TA/DA will be admissible to the candidates for interview.
6. Complete Application in all respect should reach in this office on or before 6.9.2019 upto 5 P.M.
7. The Interview for the above posts will be held on 9.9.2019 at 10 AM.
8. No separate interview letter will be sent to the candidate.

Dated:21.8.2019

President,
District Consumer Disputes
Redressal Forum, Gurgaon.

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय,
जलपथ प्रमण्डल सं0-1, सिमडेगा
जल संसाधन विभाग, झारखण्ड

–: सूचना :–

कार्यपालक अभियंता, जलपथ प्रमण्डल सं0–1, सिमडेगा के पत्रांक–334 दिनांक 27.07.2019 द्वारा प्रकाशित " P.C.C Lining Work of Main Canals and ERM Work of Kansjore Reservoir Scheme, Dist.– Simdega" कार्य की निविदा PR No. – 213262 (Water Resources) 19-20 (D) अपरिहार्य कारण से रद्द की जाती है।

पुनः निविदा शीघ्र प्रकाशित की जाएगी।

बूंद - बूंद नहीं बरसेंगे तो बूंद को तरसेंगे

कार्यपालक अभियंता,
जलपथ प्रमण्डल सं0–1, सिमडेगा

P.R. 214749 Water Resource(19-20)-D

Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts
presents
gita govinda
on the occasion of
krishnashtami

August 23 | 6 pm
Mohiniyattam by Bharati Shivaji & Centre for Mohiniyattam
Vocal by Ustad Wasifudin Dagar
Odissi by Ranjana Gauhar & Ranjana's Dance Academy

August 25 | 6 pm
Manipuri by Guru Singhajit Singh,
Charu Sija Mathur & Manipuri Nrityashram
Carnatic Vocal by Sudha Raghuraman
Kathak by Shovana Narayan & Asavari Repertory

Auditorium, C.V Mess,
Janpath, New Delhi - 110001
All are cordially invited

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Techies on TWO WHEELS

Through YouTube channel Kcyclopedia – Kerala's Cycling Encyclopedia, two men aim to promote a healthy lifestyle

HARIKUMAR JS

Staying rooted to one's chair for long hours is perhaps an occupational hazard for many, especially in the corporate world.

Taking the battle against the bulge to the streets are techies and avid cyclists Vishnu Lal R and Krishnamoorthy GV, who have hopped on the saddle with their YouTube channel and Facebook page Kcyclopedia - Kerala's Cycling Encyclopedia with the message of "promoting an active lifestyle through cycling."

From vlogs on cycle expeditions to tips and advices for beginners to quirky cycling anecdotes, Kcyclopedia aspires to be exactly what it calls itself: an encyclopedia of cycling. "Today, many of us are not physically fit due to our sedentary lifestyles. Only a few are doing something about it though," says Vishnu, who is based in Thiruvananthapuram.

It all began with a conversation between the two on health concerns among the young last October. "After eating to our heart's content at a restaurant, we were watching a game of football at a ground. We suddenly felt guilty for indulging ourselves despite our sedentary lifestyles. It was like an epiphany and we decided to change gears, motivated by fear and guilt," says Vishnu. Running and hitting the gym did not work out as they could not sustain the activities in the long run.

But cycling proved different. Once they started enjoying its benefits, there was no turning back. "We realised it was not only an exercise, but an experience in itself. This gave us an impetus for not giving up. With the energy required to run 10 kilometres, I can perhaps cycle 50 kilometres with the bonus of seeing new places and meeting different people," adds Vishnu. The duo started hitting the roads on their bikes in the mornings, while embarking on longer rides on weekends. "Kcyclopedia was then launched in April to share our cycling experiences with others," says Krishnamoorthy.

If their 'How-to videos' are chiefly for beginners, the 'Foodie cyclist' series documents a biker's culinary experiences. To drive home the message of the importance of staying active, Vishnu and Krishnamoorthy embarked upon an All Kerala Cycle Ride, from Kumbala in Kasaragod to Thiruvananthapuram, covering about 650 kilometres in six days. "It was a journey of self-discovery. Moreover, the odyssey boosted our confidence and proved that it's possible to travel such a distance on a bicycle," says Krishnamoorthy. They have been on one-off trips to Ponmudi, Sasthampara, Ponnumthuruthu and Munroe Island, the latest being Sundarapandiapuram in Thenkasi, known for its picturesque sunflower fields. While Vishnu often uploads videos of solo bike trips, the two are often joined by members of Trivandrum Bikers' Club.

Changed gears Vishnu Lal R (left) and Krishnamoorthy GV; and (below) during a cycle ride ▪ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

> Today, many of us are not physically fit due to our sedentary lifestyles

A fair amount of preparation goes into each trip. "On top of the list is helmet. We ensure that the cycles are in perfect condition. We also carry chocolates and groundnut burfi as energy-boosters and, of course, water, which is a cyclist's fuel. An additional tyre tube and a mini-pump are also handy. Our video titled 'Cycling Tour Essentials' gives an overview about all these. Then, if I'm travelling solo, I carry my camera tripod too," explains Vishnu, who edits the videos himself. During the Ponmudi trip, undertaken on a folding cycle, Vishnu flagged off a 'Dust It Off Campaign' as a fervent appeal to those who have bought cycles but have junked them.

Vishnu says that cycling improves one's road sense. "When you are on a cycle, you tend to be alert. This effectively translates to the way you ride your motorbike as well." With our country's unpredictable roads and chaotic traffic, bicycling is no cinch. "You are seldom respected when you are on the road on a cycle. However, with cyclists constituting only a minuscule minority, I don't think it's fair to ask the government to provide us cycling lanes. But I hope things get better for cyclists in due course," he says.

Moving forward, the duo hopes to kick-start "a collective of cycling enthusiasts" within the techie community. "It'll be great if we can make cycling a part of our daily commute. We have already held discussions with some companies about the feasibility," says Krishnamoorthy. A Manali-Leh trip on cycle is also in the pipeline. For now, the cycle continues.

RACING THE BAR

Perhaps, the most famous bicycle race is the Tour de France, which was established in 1903. It is still held every year, in a three-week event that finishes in Paris.

IN OUR BACKYARD

The low-flyer

The Lime Butterfly lays its eggs on citrus plants, and has a unique way of getting its nutrition

The great adaptor The Lime butterfly and (left) as a caterpillar ▪ SOHAIL MADAN AND LAKHAN KOHLI

ABHISHEK GULSHAN

You've probably seen the beautiful Lime Butterfly if you have a Chinese Orange (*Citrus medica*), Ber (Zizyphus mauritiana), or Bael (Aegle Marmelos) plant in your backyard. The butterfly that belongs to the Swallowtail group, and is often called the Lime Swallowtail, lays its eggs on these and other citrus plants. It is one of the bigger butterflies found in our region with an impressive wingspan of about 80-100mm.

The family of swallowtails showcases some of the most spectacular butterflies in the world and most of the species have hind wings that have a forked appearance. The Lime is an exception. The pattern on its wings is chequered with irregular spots and patches of white, black, yellow, green and two orangish-red markings on the edges of the hindwings.

The butterfly is a mud-puddler. Mud-puddling is a behaviour exhibited by butterflies and a few other insects, where they sit on moist soil and dung, and suck up the fluid to extract certain salts and nutrients that play an important role in their life-processes. Seen basking with its wings held wide open on plants, it's usually a low flier.

The female butterfly goes from plant to plant, laying a single egg, like most other swallowtails. The caterpillar has five Instars (stages): the first when it emerges from the egg (black in colour), the second, third, and fourth when it outgrows its outer skin and sheds it in order to accommodate its size. At these stages, it's dark with white markings on the body, resembling uric acid. This makes it look like bird droppings, helping it to escape predators. In the final stage, the caterpillar assumes a cylindrical shape, uniformly pale green, with some amount of white on its body.

Most swallowtail caterpillars have a forked organ called the osmeterium at the base of the head, on the back. When threatened, the osmeterium pops out and releases a pungent smell of butyric acid, mainly to evade ants, parasitic wasps, and flies. The Lime butterfly is no exception.

Despite their camouflaging prowess, a few caterpillars are found by parasitic wasps. These wasps lay dozens of eggs inside of the caterpillars. The wasp-larvae feed on the butterfly caterpillar from the inside. The vital organs are spared at first to keep the caterpillar alive until it's ready to pupate, after which even those are consumed. Shortly before or soon after the pupation process, the wasp parasitoids emerge from their host, thus killing it.

The widespread range of this butterfly indicates its tolerance and adaptation to diverse habitats as we can see them in gardens, farmlands and sometimes forest patches. Every September is celebrated as Butterfly Month.

The writer is the founder of NINOX - Owl About Nature, a nature-awareness initiative. He is the Delhi-NCR reviewer for Ebird, a Cornell University initiative, monitoring rare sightings of birds. He formerly led a programme at WWF India.

CLICK PICS

To participate in a photography contest organised by the Bombay Natural History Society and NINOX, contact ninox.edu@ gmail.com, cecbnhsdelhi@ bnhs.org

PEOPLE

Champagne and ivory

Ridhi Mehra now has a store in the city

After launching her eponymous brand in 2012 and e-retailing at Pernia's Pop-Up Shop online, Ridhi Mehra now has a store in Delhi. The highlights of the 350 square-foot store are the brass and glass floral chandelier by The Glass Forest and jewel-coloured Mughal-motif-inspired jewel-coloured nesting tables that stand out against the grey floor and heavy drapes.

Her latest, pre-fall collection (she does seven or eight a year), called Basra, has floral and geometric patterns from Islamic art and architecture with detailing in dori work, French knots, and sequins. The statement belts with stones and looped fringes are versatile, while her most successful pieces are in ivory and champagne. Expect silk organza drapes and ruffles, belted anarkalis, jacket and pre-pleated sarees, peplum-lehengas.

"Brides are looking for muted colours these days — they'll wear one to at least one function, and that is surprisingly to the wedding itself," says the 29-year-old, who graduated in management studies from the University of Nottingham and then went on to do a course at NIFT. She says now the wedding season extends through the year.

She still remembers the first garment she sold on Pernia's: a black anarkali with embroidery on the shoulder pads and a draped dupatta. She's kept her style consistent, while varying the details. At the Lakme Fashion Week, her collection An Ode to the Heirlooms, is inspired by Kashmiri and Gujarati art and craft. She's used Aari embroidery in Patola patterns, for instance.

At The Kila At Seven Style Mile, Mehrauli; ₹16,000 upward

PRODUCT

Monsoon looms

Dastkar at Nature Bazaar, headed by Laila Tyabji, and the Dastkari Haat Studio, with Jaya Jaitly at the helm, are both bringing in curated collections — keeping in mind colour palette, fabric, and weave — for the rains.

While for Dastkar this is the first "monsoon mela" showcasing over 80 types of crafts, the Dastkari Haat Studio is organising a month-long meet-and-greet with Khatri Mahamad Hamja Hasan, a young Bandhani (tie-and-dye) craftsperson from Bhuj, at a special showcase called Bright Colours - Grey Skies.

Hasan's father practised bandhni on woollen shawls, but over the years, the family moved to working with silk. He will be at the store through the month, to interact with customers, and showcase bandhni saris with zari, on gajja silk, modal silk, and georgette.

At the Dastkar's Nature Bazaar too, craftspersons will interact through the 10-day mela. Lambani embroidery of the Banjara tribes, Sujini embroidery of Bihar, and Gujarati mirror work will be on display.

Dastkar Monsoon Mela 2019, on from 22nd August - 1st September; 11 a.m. - 8 p.m., Nature Bazaar Venue, Kisan Haat, Andheria Modh.
Bright Colours - Grey Skies, on until 28th August, Dastkari Haat Studio, 11 a.m, - 7 p.m., 32, Mehar Chand Market, Lodhi Road

Contact us at *delhimetro@thehindu.co.in*

5 EVENTS WORTH YOUR WHILE

LITERATURE

Poetry readings
Award-winning writer and poet Arundhathi Subramaniam will read from her recent volume of poetry, *Love without a Story* this evening. It is a collection of poems that celebrate an expanding kinship of passion and friendship. The event will be chaired by Dr. H.K. Kaul, President, The Poetry Society (India).
VENUE: Conference Room - I, IIC
TIME: 6:30 p.m.

FOOD

Tea-time trays
Smoke House Deli, a casual dining outlet, has curated a tea-time tray menu offering tea and coffee with an array of sweet and savoury snacks. The dishes on offer include a variety of finger sandwiches and crostinis, like Tomato and Brie Sandwich, Grilled Mushroom, Chicken Coronation Sandwich and Smoked Salmon.
VENUE: Smoke House Deli (Delhi/NCR)
TIME: Monday-Thursday, 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

ART

On canvas
Four celebrated artists have come together to showcase their sixteen of their recent artworks in Rooh - The essence of being. Curated by Tanvi Bhatia, the collection comprises of abstracts and oil on canvas. The participating artists include Pallav Chander, Bahaar Dhawan Rohatgi, Dhiraj Singh and Ishan Gupta.
VENUE: Select Citywalk, Saket
TIME: 10 a.m. - 11 p.m.

PERFORMANCE

Stand-up comedy
Cervesia, a microbrewery is staging Bachpan, a stand-up comic act in Hinglish by Rajat Chauhan. Delhi-based comedian Rajat became passionate about comedy after completing a degree in engineering. He's now a regular in the stand-up comedy scene. In this act, he has jokes extracted from day-to-day life experiences.
VENUE: Cervesia, Sector 29, Gurugram
TIME: 8 p.m.

THEATRE

English play
Those Left Behind Things will be staged this evening as part of the ongoing Old World Theatre Festival. Written and directed by Vikram Phukan, the play follows the journey of Iranian asylum-seekers, and examines displacement and migration, the shifting signposts of desire, and the nature of human spirit.
VENUE: Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre
TIME: 7:30 p.m.

DELHI THE HINDU
THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 2019

Two museums in Vietnam remind us that the horrors of colonisation and brutal military conflict must never be forgotten

The embers of war

Land of apocalypse (Anti-clockwise from left) US light tank M41 Walker Bulldog at the War Remnants Museum; the facade of the museum; Hoa Lo prison where John McCain was held prisoner; McCain greeted by President Richard Nixon after his release; and wounded US Marines at Con Thien ▪ GETTY IMAGES/ ISTOCK AND THE HINDU ARCHIVES

Famous names at Hoa Lo Prison/Hanoi Hilton

- John McCain – Senator of Arizona, Republican Presidential nominee (2008)
- Vice Admiral James B Stockdale – US Vice Presidential candidate (1992)
- Jeremiah Denton – Senator of Alabama
- Nguyen Chi Thien – Poet, activist

KANISHKAA BALACHANDRAN

When Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman's MiG 21 was shot down by Pakistan in February, he ejected and was soon captured. He was released as a goodwill gesture nearly three days later and returned to a hero's welcome across the border.

Over 51 years ago, Lt Commander John McCain wasn't so lucky. The future Senator and Republican nominee for US President was in the middle of a bombing mission over North Vietnam in 1967 when his fighter plane was gunned down. He was rescued at Truc Bach Lake and sent to Hoa Lo Prison in Hanoi, which American Prisoners of War (PoWs) sarcastically referred to as the Hanoi Hilton. McCain walked free, but after nearly six years.

'Hell on earth '

Hoa Lo Prison and the War Remnants Museum in Ho Chi Minh City are reminders of Vietnam's past. A section of the prison is now a museum, detailing Vietnam's independence struggle against the French, and the period when American PoWs were incarcerated between 1964 and 1973, the year the US' involvement in the Vietnam War ended. The brutal French prison led Vietnamese prisoners to nickname Hoa Lo Prison as "hell on earth".

One room, known as the *cachot* (dungeon), has models of prisoners huddled together with their legs in stocks. The morbidity grows as you walk through to the death row cells, one of which has a haunting model of an emaciated prisoner awaiting his barbaric end, by the guillotine, also displayed in a large room.

Some prisoners did manage to escape, through two underground sewers, displayed outside. A caption claims that in March 1945, over 100 escaped. What remains of Hoa Lo Prison (after part of it was demolished in the 1990s) details the horrors of oppression and torture inflicted by the imperialists, and a floor is dedicated to the heroics of revolutionary fighters. However, the American section is confined, surprisingly, to just a couple of rooms. The exhibits include the uniforms worn by the captured pilots, their prison clothes, utensils. However, you could be tricked into thinking that Hilton-level luxuries were available to the PoWs, as you see pictures of them playing outdoor sport, chess, being treated to fancy meals, reading letters from home and singing Christmas carols. The prison claims that the PoWs were "treated humanely", but it contrasts with multiple accounts, on camera and in memoirs, by inmates like McCain and Everett Alvarez Jr (one of the longest-serving PoWs at Hoa Lo) to name a few, that they were inflicted with grotesque acts of torture, comparable with the French.

Fascinating tales by survivors of how they communicated by tapping on walls in secret get no mention here. In these places, it's hard to expect balanced accounts of war and struggle, so the propaganda at Hoa Lo is hard to miss.

However, no matter whose side of the fence you are on, the destruction and misery of war is real and inescapable. An estimated 58,000 Americans died, the Vietnamese casualties on both sides were exponentially higher. Pictures show parts of Hanoi reduced to a rubble following America's B-52 carpet bombings in 1972.

Remains of the day

The War Remnants Museum takes you head on into the horrors of the Vietnam War in graphic detail. This multi-storey building at the centre of Ho Chi Minh City was inaugurated in 1975 as the 'Exhibition House for US and Puppet Crimes'. The vast compound displays American tanks, helicopters, fighter planes, Howitzers etc, a treat for defence experts and enthusiasts.

This museum too lacks balanced reporting of the war, but is a very sobering experience for its exhibition of horrific pictures, many of which were recovered from cameras of photographers (133 of them) who perished on duty. The exhibition Requiem, curated by photographers Tim Page and Horst Faas, is a tribute to these photographers, whose images from the battlefield were a shock to the system, to many Americans in particular, who were kept in the dark about the events in Vietnam.

There are many gut-wrenching images – villagers pleading with the US Marines for mercy; a white soldier holding what remained of a Vietnamese soldier ripped apart by a grenade; young children hiding from their captors in a sewer; mass graves. The gallery Agent Orange shows haunting images of the after-effects of dioxin and napalm, used by the Americans to destroy crops and foliage. Even today, successive generations of Vietnamese and American soldiers who came into contact with the deadly dioxin are born with deformities and diseases of the worst kind.

This museum portrays the Americans and their allies as the aggressors. A sign shows the findings of the Bertrand Russell Tribunal (1967), which held the US government "guilty of genocide". The open air exhibition area recreates parts of the prisoner of war camp at Phu Quoc island, run by the then Saigon government, that detained Viet Cong forces. Captions detail the torture techniques used, and accounts from survivors. The museum, interestingly, doesn't trumpet the achievements by the North Vietnamese in suppressing the Americans. Images of victory can be seen in the section Historical Truths, which recaps events like the freedom struggle, the 1954 Dien Bien Phu battle that stunned the French into submission, the Fall of Saigon.

The theme on the ground floor is the fight for peace, with images of anti-war protests around the globe, including Calcutta. Pictures of some American PoWs – described, sarcastically or not, as the "special guests" – are reproduced here as well, for the benefit of visitors who couldn't make it to Hoa Lo.

Pictures show McCain, Alvarez and others returning to Hoa Lo decades after their release, revisiting the past, yet not reopening old wounds. Facts may be debated or put to rest, but by the end of the tour, you can't help but admire the resilience of the Vietnamese. Political bridges may have been built, but the scars of war will remain, and that's what the battle-weary country seeks to do through its war museums – remind, forgive, but not forget.

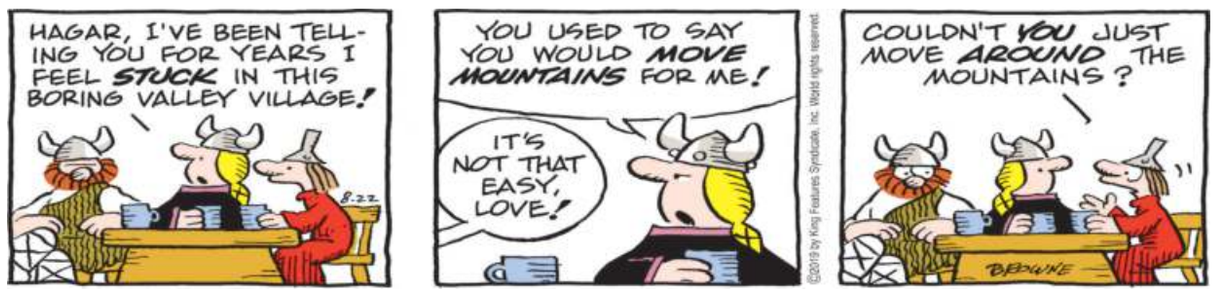
BENEATH THE BAMBOO

The tunnel rats were American, Australian, and New Zealand soldiers who performed underground search and destroy missions during the Vietnam War.

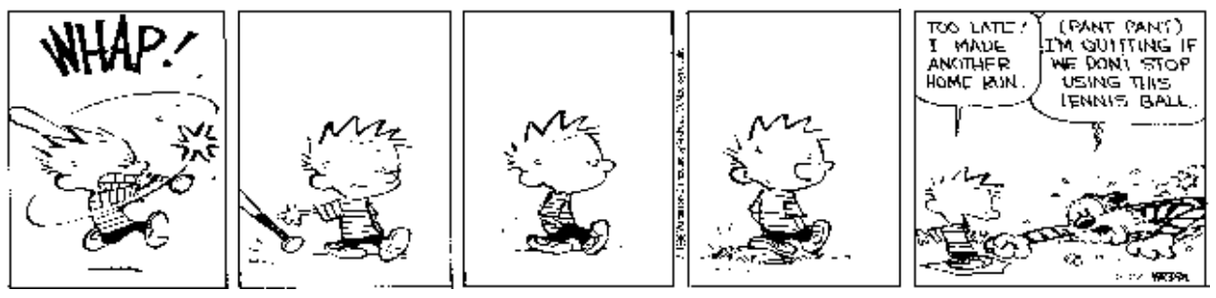
POOCH CAFE

PEANUTS

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



CALVIN AND HOBBES



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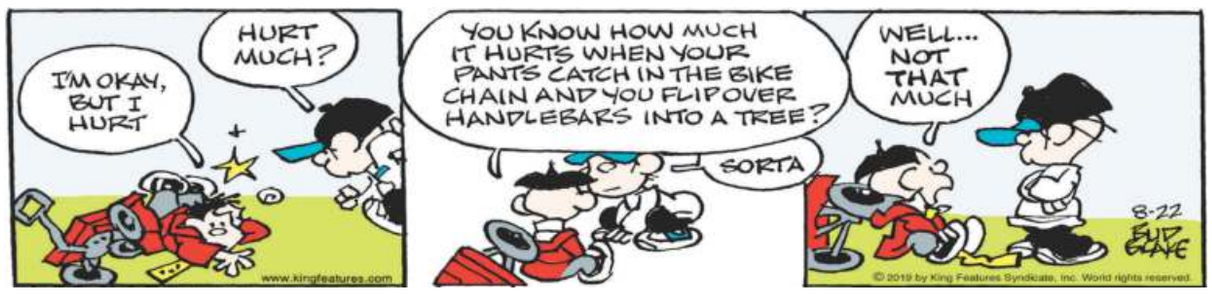
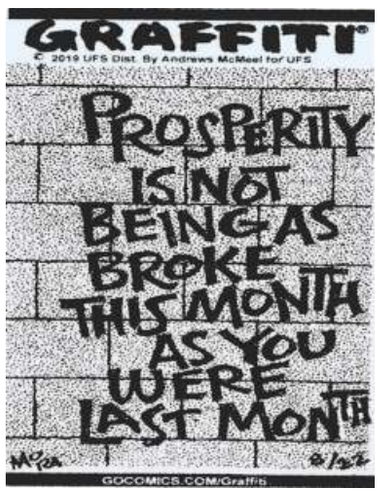


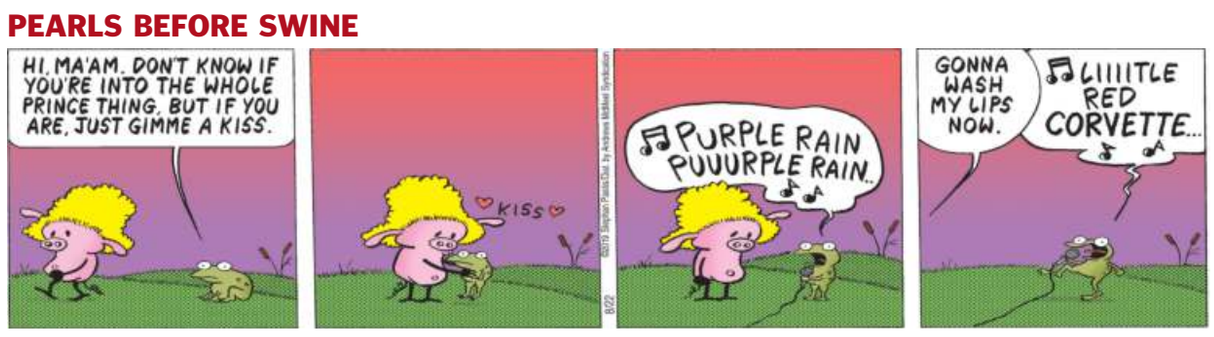


WUMO

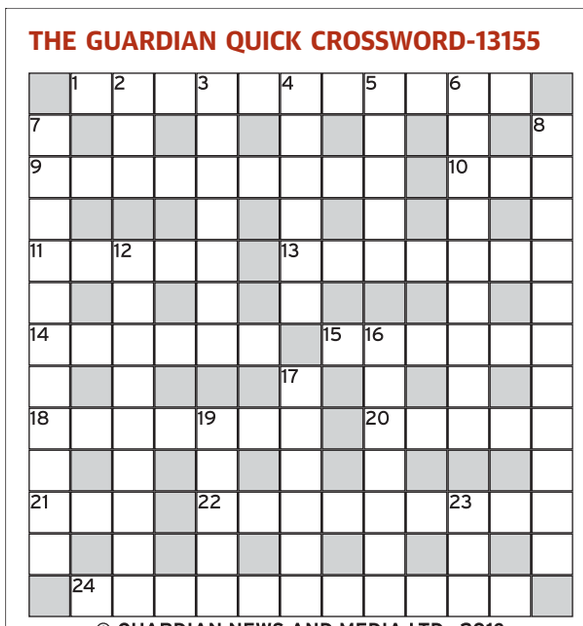
HEALTH CAPSULES

by Bron Smith

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



THE GUARDIAN QUICK CROSSWORD-13155



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Across

1 Arizona tourist attraction (5,6)
9 Intentionally (2,7)
10 Bind (3)
11 Small and elegant (5)
13 Pharmacist (7)
14 Reflected sounds (6)
15 Enquiring (6)
18 x, y or z, possibly (7)
20 Watchful (5)
21 Rosie Lee (3)
22 Lacking life (9)
24 Found out (11)

Down

2 Rent (3)
3 Upbringing (7)
4 Adopt a low static position – Essex river (6)
5 Female relative (5)
6 In a precarious situation (2,4,3)
7 Incomprehensible language (6,5)
8 Informal social gathering (3-8)
12 Ode to Autumn poet (4,5)
16 Lingua franca of East Africa (7)
17 To some extent (though not entirely) (2,4)
19 Sheep-like (5)
23 Period of history (3)

Solution will appear in The Hindu dated August 23, 2019.

Solution No. 13154

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Favourite India will be wary of Windies

The teams figure in their inaugural match of the World Test Championship campaign

INDIA IN WI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NORTH SOUND (ANTIGUA)

A perfect combination and a winning start will be foremost on skipper Virat Kohli's mind when India takes on the West Indies in its inaugural World Test Championship opener here on Thursday.

On paper, a batting line-up that has Kohli, Cheteshwar Pujara, K.L. Rahul, Rohit Sharma and Rishabh Pant in the ranks should be termed clear favourite, but this West Indies team, led by Jason Holder, is no pushover.

England found that out the hard way at the start of the year when it lost a Test series 2-1 on some of the most lively pitches.

New ball challenge

Kohli and head coach Ravi Shastri, who recently got a fresh contract, will be wary of the challenge that can be posed by the new ball pair of Kemar Roach and Shannon Gabriel along with Jason Holder bowling his steady seam-up spells.

If there is pace and bounce, Kohli is likely to go with four specialist bowlers in which R. Ashwin and Kuldeep Yadav will be fighting for the lone spinner's slot.

The three pacers, in all likelihood, will be Jasprit Bumrah, Ishant Sharma and Mohammed Shami.

On the batting front, Kohli wants the opening combination of Mayank Agarwal and K.L. Rahul to make the most of their chances in the series.

"We have selected only two openers, so the idea is to give them four innings, just let them go out there and express themselves. Mayank has done really well, KL [Rahul] has performed well in the past, he is looking forward to making things count in Test cricket again," Kohli said on the eve of the match.

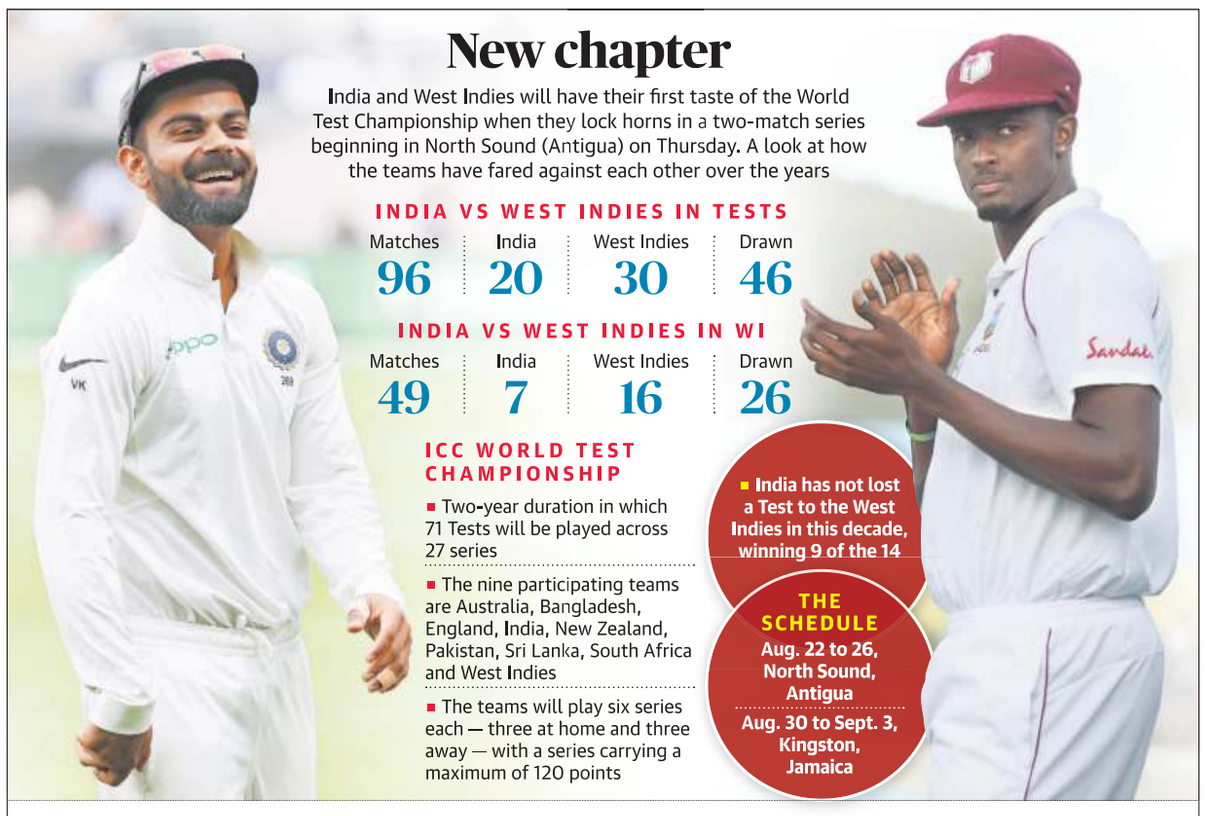
"At the end of the day, as much as individuals want to perform, it is about what you can do as a team. If you look at the Melbourne Test, how [Hanuma] Vihari and Mayank opened and though Vihari scored just 18 or 20 runs, he batted for 85 balls, tells you it is all about team, and he handled the situation so well that Pujara and myself could go out there and play the way we did and Pujara then went to get that century for us."

The teams (from):

India: Virat Kohli (Capt.), Mayank Aagrwal, K.L. Rahul, Cheteshwar Pujara, Hanuma Vihari, Ajinkya Rahane, Rohit Sharma, Rishabh Pant (wk), Kuldep Yadav, R. Ashwin, R. Jadeja, Ishant Sharma, Mohammed Shami, Jasprit Bumrah, Umesh Yadav, Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Wriddhiman Saha (wk).

West Indies: Jason Holder (Capt.), Kraigg Brathwaite, Darren Bravo, Shamarh Brooks, John Campbell, Roston Chase, Rakheem Cornwall, Shane Dowrich, Shannon Gabriel, Shimron Hetmyer, Shai Hope, Keemo Paul and Kemar Roach.

Match starts at 7 p.m. IST



New chapter

India and West Indies will have their first taste of the World Test Championship when they lock horns in a two-match series beginning in North Sound (Antigua) on Thursday. A look at how the teams have fared against each other over the years

INDIA VS WEST INDIES IN TESTS

Matches	India	West Indies	Drawn
96	20	30	46

INDIA VS WEST INDIES IN WI

Matches	India	West Indies	Drawn
49	7	16	26

ICC WORLD TEST CHAMPIONSHIP

- Two-year duration in which 71 Tests will be played across 27 series
- The nine participating teams are Australia, Bangladesh, England, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, South Africa and West Indies
- The teams will play six series each — three at home and three away — with a series carrying a maximum of 120 points

- India has not lost a Test to the West Indies in this decade, winning 9 of the 14

THE SCHEDULE

Aug. 22 to 26, North Sound, Antigua

Aug. 30 to Sept. 3, Kingston, Jamaica

INDIA

BATTING

Player	Inns	Runs	HS	Ave	50s/100s
Gavaskar	48	**2749**	236*	65.45	7/13
Dravid	38	**1978**	146	63.80	13/5
Laxman	36	**1715**	176*	57.16	11/4
Tendulkar	32	**1630**	179	54.33	10/3
Vengsarkar	40	**1596**	159	44.33	7/6

BOWLING

Player	Inns	Wkts	BBI	Ave	5WI/10WM
Kapil Dev	41	**89**	9/83	24.89	4/1
Kumble	28	**74**	6/78	29.78	4/0
Venkataraghavan	37	**68**	5/95	39.47	1/0
Chandrasekhar	24	**65**	7/157	33.52	4/1
Bedi	31	**62**	5/82	34.88	1/0

WEST INDIES

BATTING

Player	Inns	Runs	HS	Ave	50s/100s
Lloyd	44	**2344**	242*	58.60	12/7
Chanderpaul	44	**2171**	140	63.85	10/7
Richards	41	**1927**	192*	50.71	7/8
Sobers	30	**1920**	198	83.47	7/8
Kanhai	28	**1693**	256	62.70	7/4

BOWLING

Player	Inns	Wkts	BBI	Ave	5WI/10WM
Marshall	30	**76**	6/37	21.98	6/1
Roberts	25	**67**	7/64	21.70	4/1
Hall	26	**65**	6/49	18.78	4/1
Walsh	25	**65**	6/62	20.24	4/1
Gibbs	30	**63**	8/38	23.28	4/0

Test cricket is a great format, need to preserve it: Richards

EXCLUSIVE

VIJAY LOKAPALLY
NEW DELHI

Viv Richards is looking forward to the two-match Test series between India and the West Indies starting at Antigua on Thursday. He is also excited about getting to see Virat Kohli in action.

Richards, who is a panelist on Extraaa Innings on Sony Pictures Sports Network for the series, shares his views with *The Hindu* in an email interview. *Excerpts:*

How do you view the forthcoming Test series? Other than Virat who are the players you are keen to watch?

I would love to see the West Indies. Both the teams have the same kind of fireworks and the so called seam attack to exploit these conditions, and this is what I would love to see. We took on England with their firepower and we won and everyone says "Aah, but India has got the Bumrahs, the Shamis and the Kumars and all these other guys." So, we should be prepared to take some knocks. We got to give some, take some. And that to me would create some sort of vehemence and it is going to be competitive.

How relevant is this India-West Indies series in view of Test championship?

Certainly I think that it is a great format. And to be fair, I think this is where the ODI and T20 were born from that particular format. I would not like to see Test match cricket to disappear. Why because, you speak of (Don) Bradman... I was fortunate in a big way to be around Sunil Gavaskar and all the great players, and that is why I think we have the T20. It has evolved and I believe we need to preserve this format.

Where would you place Tests between India and West Indies when you were playing?

In the earlier days, there were a lot of folks who would be sorted out if not equipped. Nowadays, I think what makes the game easier as the umpire makes a signal on you that's one or two for the over (bouncers) and it is too predictable, in my opinion. Those days, it wasn't so. The players of today do have an advantage, especially if you are a batsman.

You always praise Virat. How much of yourself do you see in him?

I have a lot of respect for Virat. I see a lot of attitudes similar, we are both so passionate about our leadership, we are passionate about how our fieldsmen behave, because he is driven and I have always felt that is why he is the captain. This guy leads from the front and I enjoy that and appreciate that. I made a statement once, where I had seen him on the long-on boundary in a match, and it was an appeal for a leg before; he is a long way from the square.

He is hands on. I have sometimes been accused of being hard on my players and the other day I saw him doing the same; I thought to myself "man... yeah I have done it too".

Evenly matched: Vivian Richards, seen with Ravi Shastri, says both India and West Indies have the same kind of firepower and seam attack. ▪ COURTESY BCCI

Physios and trainers interviewed

AMOL KARHADKAR
MUMBAI

Sixteen physiotherapists and 12 trainers were interviewed on Wednesday by the national selection panel for India's support staff.

Team India is set to have new appointees for these posts as Patrick Farhart and Shankar Basu decided to terminate their association as physiotherapist and strength and conditioning coach.

Dr. Dinshaw Pardiwala, a sports medicine expert, and renowned fitness coach Ranadeep Moitra joined the M.S.K. Prasad-led selection committee at the BCCI headquarters.

The interview process will conclude on Thursday with 25 candidates set to be examined for the post of administrative manager.

Paytm retains title rights

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Paytm has extended its association with the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) as title sponsor for international and domestic matches in India by agreeing to shell out ₹326.8 crore for the four-year cycle commencing October, 2019.

BCCI made the announcement after bid documents were opened at its headquarters on Wednesday.

Paytm had replaced Micromax with a bid of ₹2.42 crore per match in October 2015.

When the BCCI opened the bid documents for the next cycle – October 2019 to September 2023 – Paytm's parent company (One 97 Communications Pvt. Ltd.) walked away with the rights at ₹3.8 crore per match.

With India set to host at least 86 international men's matches in bilateral series over the next four years, BCCI was thrilled with the 57 per cent hike in sponsorship amount.

"The BCCI are proud of Paytm continuing its long-standing commitment to Indian cricket," stated BCCI CEO Rahul Johri.

Vijay Shekhar Sharma, the founder and chief executive of Paytm, said, "We are excited to continue our long-term association with BCCI and the Indian cricket team. Our commitment to Indian cricket gets stronger with every season. India loves cricket and we at Paytm are the biggest fans of it."

While men's international cricket is the draw-card, BCCI offers extension of sponsorship rights to domestic cricket and women's international games at no additional cost.

Langer wants Australia to avoid bouncer battle

England opener Roy passes concussion test; Bayliss hints at batting reshuffle

THE ASHES

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LEEDS

Australia coach Justin Langer has told his side to avoid being drawn into a bouncer battle after Steve Smith was ruled out of the third Test against England.

His absence from the third Test at Headingley, starting on Thursday, leaves Australia with a huge hole to fill.

Langer insisted that his side would not be sidetracked from its goal of becoming the first Australian team in 18 years to win an Ashes series in England.

"We know what our plans are to beat England," said Langer. "It's not an ego game."

Meanwhile, England opener Jason Roy passed a concussion test after being hit in the nets on Tuesday.

The 29-year-old opener was struck by a throw-down from ex-England international Marcus Trescothick, working with the team in a temporary coaching capacity.

Ready for action: Jason Roy, left, attends a nets session with Jack Leach and Jofra Archer. ▪ AP

World Cup winner Roy was assessed after taking the blow and was able to continue batting. But he also required a follow-up check on Wednesday to determine any delayed symptoms.

Ollie Pope, a Surrey teammate of Roy's, has been placed on standby.

The teams (from):

Australia: Tim Paine (Capt.), Cameron Bancroft, David Warner, Usman Khawaja, Marnus Labuschagne, Travis Head, Matthew Wade, Pat Cummins, Peter Siddle, Nathan Lyon, Josh Hazlewood, Marcus Harris, Mitchell Marsh, Michael Neser, James Pattinson, and Mitchell Starc.

England: Joe Root (Capt.), Rory Burns, Jason Roy, Joe Denly, Jos Buttler, Ben Stokes, Jonny Bairstow, Chris Woakes, Jofra Archer, Stuart Broad, Jack Leach, and Sam Curran. **Standby:** Ollie Pope.

Sindhu and Saina make positive starts

BADMINTON WORLDS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BASEL

Two-time silver medallist P.V. Sindhu produced a commanding performance in her opening match at the BWF World Championships here on Wednesday.

Sindhu looked in good touch as she controlled the rallies and outsmarted Chinese Taipei's Pai Yu Po 21-14, 21-14 in a 43-minute contest.

Eighth seed Saina Nehwal also made a positive start to her campaign, defeating Netherlands' Soraya De Visch Eijbergen 21-10, 21-11 to set up a clash with Denmark's Mia Blichfeldt.

Manu Attri and B. Sumeeth Reddy suffered a 16-21, 19-21 loss to sixth seeded Chinese Han Cheng Kai and Zhou Hao Dong in men's doubles while Ashwini Ponnappa and N. Sikki Reddy crashed out after losing 20-22, 16-21 to seventh seeds Du Yue and Li Yin Hui of China.

Jakkapudi Meghana and Poorvisha S. Ram went down 8-21, 18-21 to eighth seeds Shiho Tanaka and Koharu Yonemoto of Japan in the women's doubles competition.

The results:

Second round: Women: P.V. Sindhu bt Pai Yu Po (Tpe) 21-14, 21-14; Saina Nehwal bt Soraya De Visch Eijbergen (Ned) 21-10, 21-11.

Doubles: Shiho Tanaka & Koharu Yonemoto (Jpn) bt J. Meghana & Poorvisha S. Ram 21-8, 21-18; Yue Du & Yin Hui Li (Chn) bt Ashwini Ponnappa & Sikki N. Reddy 22-20, 21-16

Men: Doubles: Cheng Kai Han & Hao Dong Zhou (Chn) bt Manu Attri & Sumeet B. Reddy 21-16, 21-19.

Deft touch: P.V. Sindhu controlled the rallies and outsmarted Chinese Taipei's Pai Yu Po in a 43-minute contest. ▪ REUTERS

Panthers prevail over Thalaivas

PKL

S. PRASANNA VENKATESAN
CHENNAI

Jaipur Pink Panthers defeated Tamil Thalaivas 28-26 in the ProKabaddi League at the Nehru indoor stadium on Wednesday. Panthers led 13-11 at the break.

Ajay Thakur put out one of the only two defenders – Sunil Siddhgavali – for Thalaivas to get to 12-13 in the first minute of the second half. Deepak Hooda then secured a bonus point and put out V. Ajith Kumar for Panthers to lead 15-12.

T.R. Pavan and Hooda pulled off a super tackle on Ajay immediately after as Panthers made it 17-12.

Rahul Chaudhari sent out the only two defenders Pavan and Hooda in the fourth minute to help Thalaivas inflict an all out on Panthers and pull level at 17 from 13-17.

Ajay went past 650 PKL raid touch points.

Earlier, Manjeet top-scored with seven points as Puneri Paltan beat Bengaluru Bulls 31-23. Rohit Kumar top-scored with seven points for Bulls. He also went past the 650-point milestone in the league. Bulls' Pawan Kumar Sehrawat registered 100 raid points for the season and Manjeet got to 100 successful PKL raids as both teams were on equal points – 10-10 – at the break.

Remarkably, Paltan had secured six points and managed to keep Pawan off the mat for a total of eight minutes and 41 seconds.

In the second half, Manjeet did a super raid in the sixth minute to help Paltan inflict an all out on Bulls. Paltan led 19-11 then.

The results: Puneri Paltan 31 (Manjeet 7) bt Bengaluru Bulls 23 (Rohit Kumar 7); Jaipur Pink Panthers 28 (Nilesh Salunke 7) bt Tamil Thalaivas 26 (Ajay Thakur 6, Rahul Chaudhari 6).

Stepping up: Nilesh Salunke is on the prowl for Panthers. ▪ M. VEDHAN

An indelible image that refuses to fade away

As the US Open begins on Monday, discussions and debates about in-match coaching continues

ASSOCIATED PRESS
NEW YORK

As the start of the 2019 U.S. Open approaches, the indelible image from last year's tournament does not involve a particularly remarkable shot or a champion holding a trophy.

Instead, it is, and likely forever will remain, Serena Williams pointing her index finger at chair umpire Carlos Ramos while insisting that he owed her an apology after they clashed during the women's final.

The tenor of that match between Serena who then was, and currently is, seeking a 24th Grand Slam singles trophy and Naomi Osaka whose terrific performance during a 6-2, 6-4 victory largely was ignored amid the chaos that enveloped Arthur Ashe Stadium that day shifted after Ramos warned the American for receiving a coaching signal from the stands and devolved from there. She eventually was docked a point and, later, a game and afterward, was fined $17,000.

Almost a full 12 months later, with first-round play beginning on Monday at Flushing Meadows, the ramifications of that 1-hour, 19-minute contest still reverberate, including this – Ramos will not officiate matches involving Serena Williams or her older sister, Venus.

"We've decided that there are over 900 other matches and Carlos, for 2019, will not be in the chair for a Williams sisters match," U.S. Tennis Association executive Stacey Allaster said in a telephone interview. "We want the attention of the competition to be on the athletes."

Not tennis: The ramifications of Serena Williams and her arguments with chair umpire Carlos Ramos during the 2018 final against Naomi Osaka still reverberate. ▪AP

Among the key story lines that carry over – Serena Williams, also the runner-up at Wimbledon each of the past two years, is trying to equal Margaret Court's mark for most major singles championships. Osaka, who added her second Slam title at the Australian Open in January, returns to New York ranked No. 1 and dealing with knee discomfort that forced her withdrawal from a tune-up tournament last week.

What's more, the tennis world is filled with ongoing discussions and debates about such matters as the proper role of chair umpires, the way the code of conduct is constructed and, maybe above all, whether in-match coaching should be permitted everywhere.

On that last subject, there are those who would like to see it, such as the USTA itself which lobbied, to no avail so far, the folks who run the other majors to approve coaching or Williams' coach, Patrick Mouratoglou, who acknowledged right after last year's final that he was attempting to communicate with his player and also noted, correctly, that surreptitious coaching happens all the time and goes unpunished.

1	Naomi Osaka	JPN	17	Marketa Vondrousova	CZE
2	Ashleigh Barty	AUS	18	Wang Qiang	CHN
3	Karolina Pliskova	CZE	19	Caroline Wozniacki	DEN
4	Simona Halep	ROM	20	Sofia Kenin	USA
5	Elina Svitolina	UKR	21	Anett Kontaveit	EST
6	Petra Kvitova	CZE	22	Petra Martic	CRO
7	Kiki Bertens	NED	23	Donna Vekic	CRO
8	Serena Williams	USA	24	Garbine Muguruza	ESP
9	Aryna Sabalenka	BLR	25	Elise Mertens	BEL
10	Madison Keys	USA	26	Julia Goerges	GER
11	Sloane Stephens	USA	27	Caroline Garcia	FRA
12	Anastasija Sevastova	LAT	28	Carla Suarez Navarro	ESP
13	Belinda Bencic	SUI	29	Hsieh Su-wei	TPE
14	Angelique Kerber	GER	30	Maria Sakkari	GRE
15	Bianca Andreescu	CAN	31	Barbora Strycova	CZE
16	Johanna Konta	GBR	32	Dayana Yastremska	UKR

Source: WTA Picture: Getty Images © GRAPHIC NEWS

Different opinions

Says Allaster –"I understand it's polarizing, but ultimately, we have to look at how tennis competes and is relevant. ... Access is a key part of it; engagement with fans that want to hear from the players and coaches."

Says Mouratoglou – "I have never understood why tennis is just about the only sport in which coaching during matches is not allowed."

There are others, such as Roger Federer or the person in charge of Wimbledon, who think it goes against the very fabric of the game.

Says Federer: "I'm of the opinion that we shouldn't have coaching in tennis. ... It's what actually makes our sport unique."

Says All England Club executive chairman Richard Lewis, "most of the men have said they're against it. A lot of coaches have said they're against it.

"There's a lot of people Wimbledon, as much as anybody who feel that tennis is very special because it is a gladiatorial contest. ... You're on your own."

It's a topic that hangs over the season's last major, even if there are plenty of results-related questions for the hard-court tournament's two weeks.

None of that, though, is fraught with the greater significance of a possible rule change. As things stand, there is nothing consistent about coaching, a reflection of the each-week-is-different situation in a sport without a commissioner or a single rulebook.

"I wish (men and women) had coaching," said Sam Querrey, a Wimbledon semi-finalist in 2017, "and you could talk to your coach whenever you want."

Grand Slam tournaments do not allow coaching, for male or female players, in main-draw matches, although the U.S. Open began trying it for qualifying and juniors in 2017.

The International Tennis Federation does allow it for Davis Cup and Fed Cup matches, even letting coaches sit courtside.

The ATP doesn't allow it for tournaments on the men's professional circuit.

Yet the WTA does let coaches come down out of the stands to talk to players during changeovers, something that was ushered in more than a decade ago when Allaster was the CEO of the women's tour.

"Either have it everywhere or nowhere," 2016 U.S. Open runner-up Karolina Pliskova said, "but I prefer nowhere."

1	Novak Djokovic	SRB	17	Nikoloz Basilashvili	GEO
2	Rafael Nadal	ESP	18	Felix Auger-Aliassime	CAN
3	Roger Federer	SUI	19	Guido Pella	ARG
4	Dominic Thiem	AUT	20	Diego Schwartzman	ARG
5	Daniil Medvedev	RUS	21	Milos Raonic	CAN
6	Alexander Zverev	GER	22	Marin Cilic	CRO
7	Kei Nishikori	JPN	23	Stan Wawrinka	SUI
8	Stefanos Tsitsipas	GRE	24	Matteo Berrettini	ITA
9	Karen Khachanov	RUS	25	Lucas Pouille	FRA
10	Roberto Bautista Agut	ESP	26	Taylor Fritz	USA
11	Fabio Fognini	ITA	27	Dusan Lajovic	SRB
12	Borna Coric	CRO	28	Nick Kyrgios	AUS
13	Gael Monfils	FRA	29	Benoit Paire	FRA
14	John Isner	USA	30	Kyle Edmund	GBR
15	David Goffin	BEL	31	Cristian Garin	CHI
16	Kevin Anderson	RSA	32	Fernando Verdasco	ESP

Source: ATP Picture: Getty Images © GRAPHIC NEWS

Kumble should be selector: Sehwag

A player should be given enough opportunities, he says

UTHRA GANESAN
NEW DELHI

Virender Sehwag has always been known to keep it simple and straightforward, with the bat or words. It was no different at a promotional event on Wednesday with the former India opener being at his witty best.

"Batsmen have a bat in hand and a helmet, what else do you need? I never used a chest guard all my life so I don't think I need neck guards. ICC also allows only two bouncers," Sehwag commented when asked about the new safety rule.

Speaking at the launch of The Selector App, also backed by West Indian legend Brian Lara, Sehwag expressed his views on several topics. *Excerpts:*

Plainspeak: Virender Sehwag says he cannot comprehend the conflict of interest issue former cricketers face. ▪PTI

How do you see the selection committee's role in terms of promoting a player over a period of time?

A player being selected is proof the selectors back him. It is the job of the team management to give them enough opportunities to prove themselves.

A player puts in a lot of hard work playing on the domestic circuit and India-A tours before getting into the national side.

To drop him after just a couple of games is not fair. I think every player should get at least five to 10 games to prove himself.

Your choice of selector? Are you interested?

Anil Kumble. He was captain with a very good record. Later as coach also he won us many series. I don't see myself as a selector. If you become one, there are a lot of restrictions – you cannot commentate or write columns plus there is the conflict of interest thing. I do not understand that. If players can't do things for cricket, who will?

Women's cricket has been included in the 2022 Commonwealth Games. The ICC has been pushing for an Olympic spot. Your views.

I think cricket should definitely be in the Olympics and Commonwealth Games or other such multi-discipline events.

If even T20 seems long we can have a T10 which is a great format, smaller and consuming less time. I also think BCCI should take the initiative to get it done.

Your reaction on BCCI coming under NADA ambit.

The whereabouts clause and privacy was the only issue for players.

Otherwise we have had dope testing for a long time. I myself have been subjected to it.

Even now it's only the ICC, BCCI and NADA talking, no current player has commented on it. Let us see how it goes.

Mary Kom looks to sign off with an Olympic gold

'This is what motivates me everyday to work harder, stay healthy and practise different techniques'

ANANT KAUR
NEW DELHI

Mary Kom is eyeing a record seventh World Championship gold medal which will take her past the Cuban legend Felix Savon if she manages to achieve that feat in Yekaterinburg, Russia in the AIBA World Boxing Championships starting on September 7.

This time she will compete in the 51kg flyweight category – the one chosen for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics 2020 – and not the 48kg.

Not difficult

Talking about the difference in the two, she said, "I have started improving in every sphere: physical conditioning, strength, diet, endurance, technique and mental power. I don't think it will be very difficult for me as I have already fought in this category before in the 2014 Asian Games and recently won in that in India Open in Guwahati and the 23rd President Cup in Indonesia," Mary told *The Hindu*.

Mary seemed unperturbed about the threat in the 51kg flyweight category from the current World No. 1 and 2 Pang Chol Mhi of North Korea and Chang Yuan of China.

On her motivation, she noted, "I am motivated by myself, by all my achievements, however, my dream is not fulfilled as yet, actually. I want to win that elusive Olympic gold medal in Tokyo 2020.

"This is what motivates me everyday to work harder, stay healthy and practise different techniques. My training remains the same: running, practising, eating healthy, training, muscle strengthening and conditioning . These two years – 2019 and 2020 – are very important for me," said Mary.

She hopes to retire with a gold after the Tokyo Olympics. She has been boxing for approximately 20 years and wants to be a part of her kids' lives because she has not been able to spend time with them because of her boxing engagements.

The six time World champion was the chief guest at an event organised by the All India Gaming Federation (AIGF) to launch a report "Online Games: A tool for learning and development."

She also suggested that "performing boxer" be exempted from giving trials to qualify for a championship. Recently, the trial bout for selection in the World Championship team between Mary and Nikhat Zareen in the 51kg category was cancelled by the Boxing Federation of India.

No issues: Mary Kom said she didn't see any difficulty in competing in the 51kg category. ▪FILE PHOTO: SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Paralympic chief hails Tokyo 2020 preparations

But raises alarm bells over a dearth of accessible hotel rooms

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
TOKYO

The Paralympics chief said the 2020 Games are "on track", but raised alarm bells over a dearth of accessible hotel rooms here with only one year to go.

"I couldn't be happier with the preparations so far. With one year to go, we're totally on schedule, on track," Andrew Parsons told *AFP* in an interview to mark 12 months until the start of the Games on August 25, 2020.

However, he admitted that his "biggest concern" was still the poor selection of hotel rooms equipped for the thousands of disabled supporters, journalists and coaches poised to descend for the 13-day competition.

Athletes and some support staff will be housed in the Olympic Village where there will be enough wheelchair-friendly rooms.

But outside the village, currently only half of the fully accessible rooms needed for the Games are available and Paralympic officials do not want hotels to be too widely dispersed around the vast Japanese capital for fear of creating a knock-on transport headache.

Andrew Parsons. ▪FILE PHOTO

Japanese legislation previously required hotels with 50 or more rooms to have just one wheelchair-friendly option and although this has recently been slightly improved to ensure one percent of rooms are accessible, the change will not come into effect until after the Games.

Social stigma

Parsons said the lack of accessible hotel rooms highlighted a social stigma sometimes faced by disabled people in Japan.

"Most probably it is perceived in Japan that people with disabilities don't travel for leisure, for business, so why have accessible hotel rooms?" said the 42-year-old Brazilian.

The change in legislation will be a positive legacy from the Games and Parsons hoped the competition would also promote a change in attitude.

"What the Games will hopefully show is that persons with disabilities can travel, they can do anything that anyone else can if you offer them the conditions," he said. He cautioned that the hotel problem "may affect the Games and it may affect the Games experience of some of our clients" but said organisers and the Tokyo Metropolitan Government were working on a solution.

"They understand they have an issue. They understand this is a problem for us, for the Games, so we are working on it together."

'Over-protective' attitude

Parsons said he hoped the later start date for the Paralympics would reduce some of the problems feared from heat and humidity during the Olympics but noted that there were specific issues faced in disability sport.

For example, many quadriplegic athletes are unable to sweat, meaning they need to take additional measures to cool their body, he said.

Like the Olympics, organisers have brought forward the start time for the marathon to beat the blistering sun but this also brings its own challenges for Paralympians.

Reddy wins gold in World Police Games

BNS Reddy.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

B.N.S. Reddy, a former Additional Commissioner of Police and a current member of the BCCI's Anti-Corruption Unit, beat Bruce Barrios of the U.S. 7-6, 6-3 in the men's singles final to win the gold medal at the World Police and Fire Games in Chengdu, China, recently.

In doubles, Reddy had to be content with silver as he and Surinder Mohan Sharma lost to the pair of Sabandon Eduardo (Phi) and Helminen Risto (Fin) 5-7, 6-4, [10-7] in the final.

This is the third consecutive time Reddy has won a gold medal at the World Police and Fire Games.

Areeba misses out in skeet

SPORTS BUREAU
LAHTI (FINLAND)

Areeba Khan shot 109 and missed the women's skeet final by five points in the shotgun World Cup in here on Wednesday. Rounds of 18, 24, 22, 21 and 24 placed her 24th out of 72 shooters. Saniya Sheikh (98) and Karttiki Shaktawat (96) finished 63rd and 65th respectively.

National champion Maheshwari Chauhan, competing in the MQS section, shot 20, 20, 22, 20 and 23.

In the men's section, Mairaj Ahmad Khan shot 25 and 21. His total placed him 64th in a field of 129 shooters. Anant Jeet Singh Naruka (45) and Angad Vir Singh Bajwa (44) were in the 73rd and 91st place.

Twitter to meet United reps over Pogba abuse

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

Twitter has reacted to calls for more to be done in preventing racist abuse of footballers on social media platforms by agreeing to meet with representatives of Manchester United they announced on Wednesday.

United executives were keen for a meeting with Twitter after their French World Cup-winning midfielder Paul Pogba was the victim of abuse following his penalty miss in Monday's draw with Wolverhampton.

Pogba was the third footballer to suffer racial abuse in a week for missing a penalty – the others being Chelsea striker Tammy Abraham and second tier side Reading's Yakou Meite.

"Over the next few weeks, Twitter representatives will meet with Manchester United, Kick It Out (anti-discrimination organisation within football) and any other civil society stakeholders interested in hearing about the proactive work Twitter is doing to address online racist abuse towards certain footballers in the UK," Twitter said in a statement.

"We have always maintained an open and healthy dialogue with our partners in this space, but we know we need to do more to protect our users. Racist behaviour has no place on our platform and we strongly condemn it."

TV PICKS

Sri Lanka vs New Zealand: Second Test, Sony ESPN (SD & HD), 10 a.m.
BWF World Championships: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD), 2.30 p.m.
The Ashes: Third Test, Sony Six (SD & HD), 3.30 p.m.
West Indies vs India: First Test, Sony Ten 1 (SD & HD), 7 p.m.
PKL: Star Sports 1 & 2 (SD & HD), 7.30 p.m.

IN BRIEF

No definite retirement plans, says Ronaldo

TURIN

Cristiano Ronaldo says he could end his illustrious career as early as next year. The Portugal football superstar, who plies his trade for Italian Serie A champions Juventus, is 34 years old now. "I don't think about that," Ronaldo told TVI as reported by *Goal* when asked about his retirement plans. "Maybe I may finish my career next year... but I may also play up to 40 or 41," said the five-time Ballon d'Or winner. IANS

Easy outing for Unique Model Academy

NEW DELHI

Defending champion Unique Model Academy, Manipur won 4-0 against Ashokenagar Boys Secondary School (H.S.) in Pool D of the Subroto Cup football tournament here,
In another match in the same pool, Our Lady Mount Carmel High School, Goa, won 2-0 against Air Force School. Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan (BKSP) drew goalless with Greenwood School, Manipur in Pool C.

World Cup-winning coach Robinson to step down

LONDON

England women's team coach Mark Robinson will be stepping down from his role, confirmed Clare Connor, the ECB's managing director of women's cricket on Tuesday. As a temporary arrangement, assistant coach Alastair Maiden will be taking the role held by Robinson. ANI

Nagal in second round of US Open qualifiers

NEW YORK

Sumit Nagal earned his first win at a Grand Slam qualifying event, knocking out the seasoned Japanese Tatsum Ito in straight sets at the US Open qualifiers, here. Nagal, at a career-best 190 right now, knocked out the 133rd ranked and 26th seed 7-6(6), 6-2 in one hour and 52 minutes on Tuesday.
This is Nagal's first attempt at making the Grand Slam singles main draw this season in which he broke into the top-200. The 22-year-old from Haryana next faces Canada's Peter Polansky, ranked 192nd.

Srihari sets National mark

SPORTS BUREAU
BUDAPEST

After breaking his own National record in the heats and the semifinal, Srihari Nataraj finished seventh in the men's 100m backstroke at the FINA World junior swimming championships here on Wednesday.

The 18-year-old, who set a new time of 55.18s (previous record 55.49s) in the heats, bettered it with a 54.69s while finishing third in his semifinal and sixth overall. That saw him make the 'B' standard qualifying time (55.47s) for next year's Tokyo Olympics. The 'A' standard stands at 53.85s.

Srihari clocked 54.85s in the final won by Italy's Thomas Ceccon in 53.46s.

Srihari. ▪FILE PHOTO

Job well done! India players celebrate after winning the final match against Japan. ▪GETTY IMAGES

In the right spot: Shamsher Singh makes the most of the chance to increase India's lead. ▪GETTY IMAGES

Indian hockey teams make it a delightful Wednesday

While the men exact revenge on New Zealand to land title, the women get past host Japan

OLYMPIC TEST

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
TOKYO

The Indian men's and women's hockey teams won the Olympic Test event here on Wednesday. While the men defeated New Zealand 5-0, the women's team put it past Japan 2-1 with goals from Navjot Kaur and Lalremsiami.

The men's team thus avenged the loss it endured in it's round robin clash.

Captain Harmanpreet Singh (7th minute) set the ball rolling before Shamsher Singh (18), Nilakanta Sharma (22), Gursahibjit Singh (26) and Mandeep Singh (27) scored for India at the Oi Hockey Stadium here.

India had lost 1-2 to New Zealand earlier in round robin league-stage.

"We played very well. We managed to make the most of our opportunities at the start of the game," Harmanpreet said after the triumph.

"I think the final was always going to be tough, we lost to New Zealand earlier. But we had been having practice sessions after that and worked on our mistakes," he added.

Both teams began the match on a cautious note staying mostly in the midfield. India won a penalty corner in the seventh minute, but couldn't capitalise on it. However, skipper Harmanpreet didn't miss out on a re-awarded penalty corner. He executed a perfect drag-flick to put India in the lead.

The Indian team continued to hold possession and put pressure on the New Zealand defence and ended the first quarter at 1-0.

Shamsher increased the lead for India through a penalty corner in the 18th minute. New Zealand managed to make only two circle entries in the second quarter even as the Indian team scored three more goals. Nilakanta found the back of the net in the 22nd minute before Gursahibjit and Mandeep scored in quick succession.

Vivek Prasad intercepted the ball brilliantly to assist a goal for Gursahibjit and Mandeep converted a penalty corner just before the half-time whistle.

After an action-packed first half, the intensity dropped from both sides. New Zealand tried to make a few inroads in the third quarter as they took a shot in the 37th minute which went wide of the post. Jarmanpreet Singh saved a penalty corner in the next minute.

In the last quarter, India held on to the lead not allowing New Zealand any chance.

Lalremsiami's winner

Against Japan, Navjot Kaur (11th minute) opened the scoring to but the lead was neutralised within a minute as Minami Shimizu (12) scored for the hosts. Lalremsiami (33) then struck the winning goal for India.

India dominated the first 10 minutes, and finally managed to find the breakthrough when Forward Navjot kept her nerves under pressure and produced a fine finish in front of the goal.

However, the next minute saw Japan strike back immediately with a well-crafted field goal which was put into the back of the net by Shimizu to make it 1-1.

The second quarter saw both the teams focus on the defence. India had a few chances in the first few minutes, with Vandana Katariya and Navjot combining well on the attacking front, but could not produce a goal-scoring opportunity.

India started aggressively after the half-time break and won a penalty corner in the 33rd minute. India's prolific drag-flicker Gurjit Kaur stepped up to take the execution, but her shot was saved by the Japanese Goalkeeperw Megumi Kageyama.

However, the rebound fell to India's young Forward Lalremsiami, who put the ball into the back of the net.

The results:
Men: India 5 (Harmanpreet Singh,7, Shamsher Singh, 18, Nilakanta Sharma, 22, Gursahibjit Singh, 26, Mandeep Singh, 27) bt New Zealand 0.
Women: India 2 (Navjot Kaur, 11, Lalremsiami, 33) bt Japan 1 (Minami Shimizu, 12).

Suhair's strikes put Bagan in final

Ubaid is Gokulam's hero in dramatic win over East Bengal

DURAND CUP

AMITABHA DAS SHARMA
KOLKATA

Suhair V.P. scored twice in extra-time to help Mohun Bagan prevail over Real Kashmir 3-1 in the second semifinal of the 129th edition of the Durand Cup here on Wednesday.

In the first last-four match, Gokulam Kerala FC goalkeeper C.K. Ubaid produced two saves in the tie-breaker to see his team get the better of local favourite East Bengal 3-2 and progress to the summit clash of the prestigious tournament.

Substitutes sparkle

The Bagan win was fashioned by its two late second-half substitutes, Suhair and Francisco Gonzalez, who combined in creating the two strikes after the regulation 90 minutes saw the opponents locked 1-1.

Salva Chamorro found the target late in the first half to help Bagan gain the lead but the home team could not preserve it till the end as Gnohere Krizo found the equaliser for Kashmir in the third minute of the injury-time, nodding home a cross from Loveday Enyinnaya.

Suhair, who came in as a 68th minute substitute, livened up the proceedings in the extra-time and restored the lead for Bagan in the 93rd minute when he was set unmarked inside the Kashmir box by a nice through-pass from Gonzalez, who had come inside in the 73rd minute.

Suhair put the finishing touch with another powerful drive in the 112th minute while latching on to another fine assist from the Spaniard.

Last-gasp equaliser

Earlier, the first semifinal at the Salt Lake Stadium saw Gokulam score an injury-time equaliser (90+4) and hold on through extra-time.

East Bengal went ahead midway in the first half through Samad Ali Mallick, who produced a spectacular long-ranger much to the joy of the home fans.

The host appeared to be cruising home by preserving the lead, but Gokulam showed fortitude in trying till the end and found the opportunity at the death, earning a penalty in the second minute of the added time.

Marcus Joseph found the net from the spot to ensure the extension of the match before his colleagues got their act together in the penalties as the extra-time failed to break the deadlock.

East Bengal was reduced to 10 men after the penalty as the referee gave its stopper-back Mehtab Singh marching orders for bringing down the Kerala side's Ugandan forward Henry Kisekka.

Stopping two attempts

Ubaid, who moved over to Kerala FC this year after spending two seasons with East Bengal, came up with the heroic act for his new employer in the penalties, stopping the attempts of East Bengal forward Jaime Santos Colado and midfielder Tondomba Singh.

This effectively secured the result in favour of the visitor, which showed better application and scored three of its four attempts.

Bruno Pelissari, Justin George and Lalromawia were on target for Kerala FC while Malemnganba Meitei's attempt was saved by the East Bengal custodian K. Mirshad.

Showing better nerves and anticipation under pressure Ubaid stopped two shots while the attempt from Lalrindika Ralte, who took the first try for East Bengal, came off the upright. Marti Crespi Pascual and Boithang Haokip were the two making successful attempts for East Bengal.

The result (semifinals): Gokulam Kerala 1 (Marcus Joseph 90+4-pen) drew with East Bengal 1 (Samad Ali Mallick 18). Gokulam won 3-2 on penalties; Mohun Bagan 3 (Salva Chamorro 42, Suhair V.P. 93, 112) bt Real Kashmir FC 1 (Gnohere Krizo 90+3).

Guessing right: Gokulam Kerala C.K. Ubaid came up with heroic saves to deny East Bengal. ▪RAJEEV BHATT

Caruana joins Anand in lead

SINQUEFIELD CUP

SPORTS BUREAU
SAINT LOUIS (USA)

Viswanathan Anand split the point with USA's Wesley So after missing a complex winning continuation in the fourth round of the Sinquefield Cup chess tournament here on Tuesday.

After Anand watched helplessly as Wesley forced a draw with perpetual checks in 42 moves, Fabiano Caruana joined the Indian in the lead at 2.5 points after Levon Aronian blundered in time-pressure to lose in 53 moves. Rest of games were drawn.

The results: Fourth round: Viswanathan Anand (2.5) drew with Wesley So (USA, 2); Fabiano Caruana (USA, 2.5) bt Levon Aronian (Arm, 1.5).

Shakhriyar Mamedyarov (Aze, 2) drew with Magnus Carlsen (Nor, 2); Hikaru Nakamura (USA, 2) drew with Ding Liren (Chn, 2); Anish Giri (2) drew with Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (Fra, 2); Sergey Karjakin (Rus, 2) drew with Ian Nepomniachtchi (Rus, 1.5).

Paire beats Prajnesh

INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU
WINSTON-SALEM (USA)

Top seed Benoit Paire beat Prajnesh Gunneswaran 6-3, 7-5 in the second round of the $807,210 ATP Winston-Salem Open on Tuesday.

In the doubles pre-quarterfinals, Leander Paes and Jonathan Erlich of Israel lost 6-2, 6-3 to second seeds Rajeev Ram of the US and Joe Salisbury of Britain.

Other results: € 46,600 Challenger, L'Aquila, Italy: Singles (second round): Jurgen Zopp (Est) bt Sasi Kumar Mukund 7-5, 6-4.
$15,000 ITF men, Jakarta: Singles (first round): Jayden Court (Aus) bt Dhruv Sunish 6-4, 6-4; Haadin Bava bt Hiroyasu Ehara (Jpn) 7-5, 6-4; David Agung Susanto (Ina) bt Prithvi Sekhar 6-7(4), 6-2, 6-3; Dusty H Boyer (US) bt Niki Poonacha 6-4, 6-4; Aaron Schmid (Sui) bt Aryan Goveas 1-6, 6-4, 6-4; Manish Sureshkumar bt Phuong Van Nguyen (Vie) 6-1, 6-4.
$25,000 ITF women, Guiyang, China: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Chihiro Muramatsu (Jpn) & Rutuja Bhosale bt Jiaxi Lu & YeXin Ma (Chn) 6-4, 6-1.
$15,000 ITF women, Tabarka, Tunisia: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Nadia Echeverria Alam (Ven) & Alicia Smith (Aus) bt Likhitha Kalava & Sri Vaishnavi Peddi Reddy 6-1, 6-1.

New Zealand looks to exploit Sri Lanka's Oval weakness

KIWIS IN SRI LANKA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
COLOMBO

New Zealand will be hoping to add to Sri Lanka's poor record at its own Oval ground and level the series in the second and final Test starting on Thursday.

Unlike the spinner's paradise at Galle and the batting haven that is the SSC, the Oval – the only ground in Asia where Don Bradman played – favours seam bowlers.

Sri Lanka has been often exposed here by quality seam bowlers and one up in the two-match series, it will have New Zealand's Trent Boult and Tim Southee – and possibly Neil Wagner – to contend with.

In the last 10 years, Sri Lanka has played seven games at The Oval and lost five, including once to New Zealand. In that game seven years ago, Southee claimed eight wickets while Boult finished with seven. Left-arm quick Wagner claimed nine wickets in New Zealand's last Test match and was unlucky to miss out in Galle as conditions heavily favoured spin. He is expected to make a return possibly at the expense of Mitchell Santner.

Teams (from): New Zealand: Kane Williamson (captain), Jeet Raval, Ross Taylor, Colin de Grandhomme, Todd Astle, William Somerville, Mitchell Santner, Tom Blundell, Tom Latham, Henry Nicholls, B.J. Watling, Trent Boult, Tim Southee, Ajaz Patel and Neil Wagner.

Sri Lanka: Dimuth Karunaratne (Captain), Dinesh Chandimal, Lahiru Thirimanne, Oshada Fernando, Angelo Mathews, Dhananjaya de Silva, Kusal Mendis, Kusal Perera, Niroshan Dickwella, Dilruwan Perera, Lasith Embuldeniya, Lakshan Sandakan, Suranga Lakmal, Lahiru Kumara and Vishwa Fernando.

Aditya to take on Daniel in over-35 final

SPORTS BUREAU
CHONBURI (THAILAND)

Aditya Khanna won both his league matches easily to set up a title-clash against the topper of the other group, Daniel Vijay Anand, in the over-35 singles event of the ITF grade-2 Seniors tennis tournament at the Greta Sports Club here on Wednesday.

In the over-45 age group, Indians Krishna Kumar and Swarandeep Singh Dhodi will meet in the final, while Chandra Bhushan outplayed Puneet Kumar Gupta 6-2, 6-2 to set up a title clash against top seed Markus Zinkand of Germany in the over-55 event.

The results: Over-35 (league): Group-A: Aditya Khanna bt Arjun Varma 6-3, 6-1; Aditya bt Timothy Kwok Fone Yuen (GBR) 6-0, 6-0.
Group-B: Daniel Vijay Anand bt Ashish Parmar 6-0, 6-0; Daniel Vijay Anand bt Royson Kwan (Sgp) 6-1, 6-1; Daniel Vijay Anand bt Fabian Donsbach (Ger) 6-2, 6-1.
Doubles (final): Daniel Vijay Anand & Swarandeep Singh Dhodi bt Aditya Khanna & Ashish Khanna 6-4, 1-6, [10-6].
Over-40 (semifinals): Krishna Kumar w.o. Ken Miyahara (Jpn); Swarandeep Singh Dhodi bt Reza Herlambang (Ina) 6-1, 6-1.
Over-45 (semifinals): Daniel Rajsky (Cze) bt Nelson Jatin Kumar 6-2, 6-1.
Over-50 (semifinals): Daniel Ahl (GBR) bt Shankar Krishnaswamy 6-2, 6-1.
Over-55 (semifinals): Chandra Bhushan bt Puneet Kumar Gupta 6-2, 6-2.
Over-60: Doubles (final): Anukom Ekasingh & Chairoj Songpiansup (Tha) bt Arthur Chin (Mas) & Nondove Poonacha Palanganda 6-2, 6-1.

Jatin overcomes Abhishek, in last eight

SPORTS BUREAU
CHANDIGARH

Third seed Jatin Dahiya had to sweat it out for a 6-3, 4-6, 7-6(5) victory against Abhishek Gaur in the pre-quarterfinals of the ₹100,000 AITA men's ranking tennis tournament on Wednesday.

In the quarterfinals, Jatin will face Hardeep Singh Sandhu.

Other results: Singles (pre-quarterfinals): V.M .Ranjeet bt Digvijay Singh Mehta 6-3, 6-1; Faisal Qamar bt Irfan Husain 7-6(3), 6-3; Calvin Golmei bt Megh Patel 6-3, 6-2.

Suraj Prabodh bt Ayyooque Ahmed Khan 6-2, 6-1; Armaan Bhatia bbt Gunjan Jadhav 6-4, 6-1; Dalwinder Singh bt Deepender Singh Bains 6-4, 7-6(6).

Doubles (quarterfinals): Atharva Sharma & Armaan Bhatia bt Naesar Jewoor & Ravikiran Ribhav 6-3, 7-5; Dalwinder Singh & Jatin Dahiya bt Calvin Golmei & Digvijay Singh Mehta 6-3, 7-6 (6); Jagmeet Singh & Faisal Qamar bt Shashank Teertha & Gunjan Jaddhav 7-6(4), 7-6(3).

Hardeep Sandhu & Megh Patel bt Rhythm Malhotra & Shubham Malhotra 6-4, 6-4.

India starts with a bang

SAFF U-15 FOOTBALL

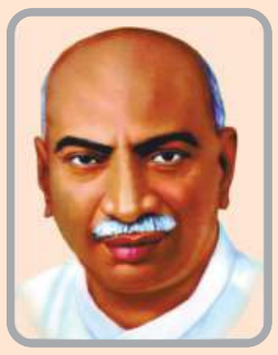
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

India routed Nepal 5-0 in the opening match of the SAFF under-15 football championship on Wednesday.

The host made an emphatic start, scoring as in the sixth minute when Maheson Singh cut in from the left and shot into the top of the net.

Maheson doubled the lead in the 24th minute. This time he moved on the right and provided a low cross to Shubho Paul to complete the formalities. Captain Anish Mazumder's 41st minute header helped India take a 3-0 lead at half-time.

The results: India 5 (Maheson 6, Shubho 24, Anish 41, Taison 50, Sridarth 56) bt Nepal 0; Sri Lanka 3 (Thushmika Jayalath 57, Muhammed Mihran 73, Muhammed Shakeel 92) bt Bhutan 2 (Kinzang Tenzin 7, Sonam Jugdrul 48).



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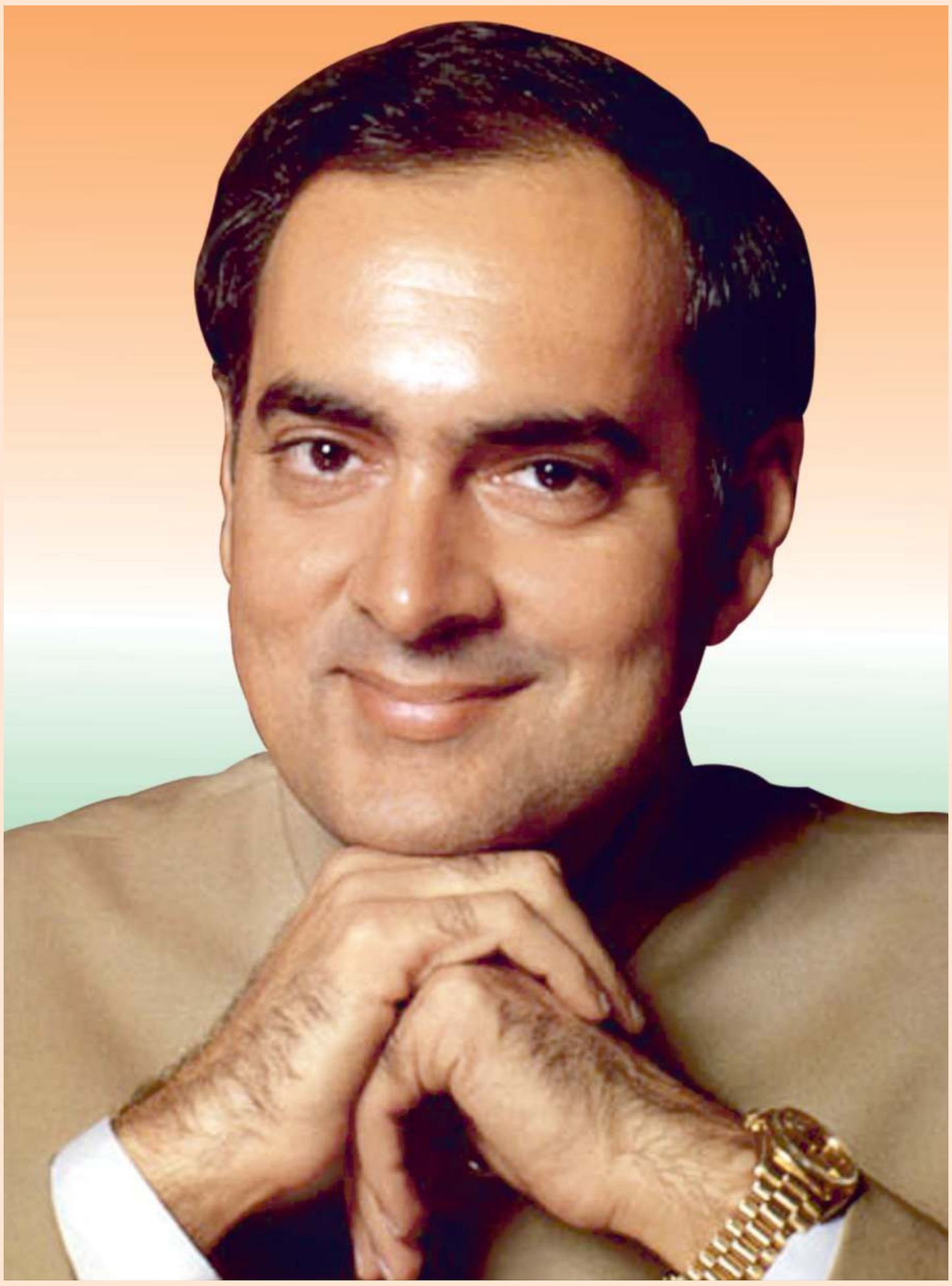

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H. VASANTHAKUMAR, M.A.,
Member of Parliament from Kanyakumari Constituency
Working President, Tamil Nadu Congress Committee
For more details: /Vasanthakumar

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